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Hands-On Science Camp Runs the Gamut of Fun Courses at the California Science Center

New Workshops For Parents Offer Science Learning Skills

Los Angeles— What do “Bones, Body & Biology,” “Creature Keepers” and “Pirate Science” have in common? They’re all unique and featured classes at this summer’s **Hands-On Science Camp**, held at the California Science Center from June 23 through August 22, 2008. With over 25 classes to choose from, campers can uncover the secrets of anatomy and biology through animal dissections, become an adoptive animal parent for a week as they shadow Animal Care Specialists, or get in character to uncover the secrets behind being a buccaneer, during week-long programs for pre-K to 8th grade that are sure to spark the imagination.

“Our classes are unique because we can combine exciting activities with our current exhibitions and permanent galleries at the Science Center,” says Ron Rohovit, Deputy Director for the Amgen Center for Science Learning, which is responsible for creating and organizing the camp. This year’s curriculum includes programs that are inspired by the new special exhibit, *BODY WORLDS & the Story of the Heart*. The course “Under Your Skin” includes a visit to the exhibit.

At Hands-On Science Camp there is a class for every age and stage. Little Learner programs are parent-child classes for the pre-K age group that focus on a scientific theme with exciting hands-on activities and crafts. Class titles include “Earth Force”, “Planet Patrol”, and “Science Matters”. This year, new Kindergarten classes such as “Smartsy Artsy” invite young campers to paint with eggs, sculpt with clay, and discover the science behind it all.

There is a full slate of half-day and full-day sessions for students in 1st through 8th grades. Highlights include “Hot Rod Science” where students can design and customize their own dragster; “The Science of 3-D Animation”, which allows campers to create and edit their own animated films; “It’s Tricky!” teaches gags with chemistry, from disappearing ink to fake snot; and “Skate Science”, which invites learners to put their “goofyfoot” forward as they dissect ollies and vert skating, and design their own skateboard.

Also new for this summer is a series of inquiry-based workshops for parents designed to reinforce science concepts using everyday items at home. Classes include titles such as “Playtime is Science” and “Science and the Home-School Connection.”

Hands on Science Camp will take place in the Wallis Annenberg Building for Science Learning and Innovation. The facility offers state-of-the-art themed classrooms and the 32,000 square-foot Big Lab, with its large-scale experiment platforms. Many courses take advantage of the Big Lab’s unique features with hands-on investigations involving air flow, buoyancy, gravity, ecology and more.

Create a schedule to suit the family’s summer hours. Courses vary in price with half and full day session rates, and some include material costs or special activity fees. Science Center

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members receive a discount rate. An extended day program is available for Kindergarten – 8th graders. Call the Hands-On Science Camp Hotline at (213) 744-7444 for a free brochure, or visit www.californiasciencecenter.org/camp for a complete list of course offerings and registration form.

About the California Science Center

The California Science Center's mission is as follows: "We aspire to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone by creating fun, memorable experiences, because we value science as an indispensable tool for understanding our world, accessibility and inclusiveness, and enriching people's lives."

The **California Science Center** and **IMAX Theater** are located in historic Exposition Park just west of the Harbor (110) Freeway at 700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Admission to Science Center exhibits is free. For recorded information, including IMAX show times, call 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623). Parking is available in the guest lot at Figueroa and 39th / Exposition Park Drive at \$6 per car, \$10 for buses or oversized vehicles. Both the Science Center and IMAX Theater are wheelchair accessible. For further information, please visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org.

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