SOUTH FLORIDA SCIENCE CENTER AND AQUARIUM

early childhood

Education Guide
Welcome to the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium

The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium is excited to present a new Early Childhood Education Guide. In it, you will see a glimpse into the new educational programs that the Science Center has to offer, both at the Center and at your school. These exciting and interactive science classes follow the Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Science Inquiry. We are sure you will have as much fun taking the classes as we did developing them! As always, we welcome your feedback; please contact us anytime at education@sfsciencecenter.org or by calling (561) 370-7710.

Sincerely,
The South Florida Science Center and Aquarium’s Education Team

New Mission Statement: “Open every mind to science”
**Teacher Membership ($20)**
Sign up for a Teacher Membership for A+ savings on your group visit.
We appreciate the dedication of educators in Palm Beach County! The Science Center offers a special Teacher Membership package that includes all the standard benefits for an individual plus savings such as $25 OFF the first program booked as well as 20% OFF on additional programs booked for 12 months. The membership allows unlimited admissions to exhibits and most planetarium shows as well as a discount in the Museum store. Since the South Florida Science Center is an ASTC member, you’ll also enjoy free or reduced admission to other member organizations. By becoming a member, you’ll be placed on our mailing list to receive invitations to events at the Science Center.

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**Palm Beach County School Employees Receive 20% OFF Seasonal Camps and Workshops**
Join us for our seasonal camps and workshops at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium. We have science camps and workshops all summer long, as well as during Palm Beach County’s winter and spring break. Each exciting week will offer hands-on exploration for young scientists ages 4 to 12 on specific topics in science. The days are packed with fun science lessons, laboratories, crafts, and outside activities led by our expert science educators. For more information, visit sfsciencecenter.org or call (561) 832-2026.

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**Early Learning**
Parent-child classes at the South Florida Science Center
Call us for a free trial class!

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**Celebrate your BIRTHDAY with the South Florida Science Center**
Call (561) 370-7708

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**Enjoy extended hours of exploration at the South Florida Science Center’s SCIENCE NIGHTS**
Last Friday night of each month 6-10 PM
Take part in cool science crafts & activities, interact with all the exhibits, watch a planetarium show, & view the night sky in Palm Beach County’s only public observatory!
sfsciencecenter.org/sciencenight
Science Center Exhibits

Aquariums of the Atlantic
Aquariums of the Atlantic
The Science Center’s new 3,000 square foot Aquariums of the Atlantic house some of Florida’s most beautiful native fish such as Queen Angels, Pink Wrasse, sharks, and seahorses as well as a few fish that have invaded Florida’s habitat. The new aquariums take visitors through the depths of our coral reefs and interpret Florida’s flora, fauna, and environments of the Gulf stream, coral reefs and the open ocean. You can even stand in the center of our 6 foot coral reef tank and feel like the fish are swimming right across your body! Exhibits and tanks in the Aquariums of the Atlantic reinforce the importance of stewardship of these environments and the long-term effects humans have on the oceans and wildlife.

The Hidden World of the Everglades
Learn all about what makes the Florida Everglades unique - America’s only sub-tropical wilderness. Visitors can listen to the sounds of Everglades animals like the Florida Panther and the Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake and view glimpses of their natural environment. The interactive exhibition immerses the visitor in Florida’s wildlife, indigenous and invasive, and various Everglades ecosystems. Within the River of Grass monitor, visitors and students explore the state-of-the-art exhibition that tells the story of the Everglades within a historical context.

Florida Conservation Station
The Conservation Station is a learning center that educates audiences of all ages on different conservation aspects. This learning laboratory includes hands-on experiments and research activities that transform visitors into real-world biologists. The station gives visitors an idea of the immense variety of life in Florida and complex relationships among living things.

Science on a Sphere
Science on a Sphere (SOS) is a room-sized global display system that uses computers and video projectors to display planetary data onto a six foot diameter sphere, analogous to a giant animated globe. Researchers at NOAA developed the SOS as an educational tool to help illustrate Earth System science to people of all ages. Animated images of atmospheric storms, climate change, and ocean temperature can be shown on the sphere.

Out of This World
See our collection of rare space artifacts and real rocks from space. Touch a 232 pound meteorite or spend a few minutes watching Apollo 14 highlights while you view a real moon rock brought back on an Apollo mission. This collection also features a Mars rock found in Nigeria in 1962.

States of Matter
Explore the basic principles of science with hands-on displays representing the states of matter, including solid, liquid, gas and plasma displays. Continue through the gallery for more basic principles of electricity revealed through conversion machines and Jacob’s Ladder. Perfect for all beginning science students and science enthusiasts of all ages!

Brain Teasers
Exercise your mind with puzzling challenges for all ages!

Dekelboum Planetarium
The planetarium is a 61-seat theater including advanced fulldome digital projection equipment, laser machine and a Spitz star projector. Palm Beach County’s only public planetarium features a rich history and modern technology to transport visitors beyond the skies. Please see our Education Programs section for show descriptions and pricing.

Science Trail
Enjoy the outdoors while continuing your science exploration! Our interactive nature trail includes hands-on exhibits: Bubbleology, fossil dig, whisper dishes, Gator Golf, classic physics demos, and a butterfly garden.
Preschooler creates fish prints in the Science Center’s early childhood classroom.
Early Childhood Education Programs

Our specialized early childhood program offerings are appropriate for preschool, VPK, and kindergarten. If you are unable to bring your class to the Science Center, our Educators will travel to your school!

Ocean Commotion
Explore the fascinating world of sharks and other aquatic animals through animal puppetry, toy replicas, and even touching real shark jaws and aquatic animal fossils. Students will discover an animal's amazing senses and investigate their habitat. At the end, students will get to create their own shark tooth necklace!
Investigation and Inquiry, Life Science, Earth and Space

Creepy Crawlies
Become an entomologist to discover the world of creepy crawlies as we learn where bugs live, what they eat and how they help the environment. Examine and touch live species of bugs, such as a Bess Beetle and the Madagascar Hissing Cockroach. Brave students may even hold a live insect in the palm of their hand!
Investigation and Inquiry, Life Science, Environmental Awareness

All About Me
What’s more interesting than YOU and ME?! Explore the wonders inside the human body with Mr. Bones, our inflatable skeleton and animal bone replicas. Students will also experiment with the five senses by being listening, feeling, and smelling detectives and even get to make their own “snot” to take home!
Investigation and Inquiry, Physical Science, Life Science

Señor Stuffee
Learn about human anatomy, health and nutrition in a live demonstration! Students will be amazed and engaged when interacting with Señor Stuffee, a 7-foot tall stuffed doll with internal organs made from cloth. We will also look through Señor Stuffee's lunch box to see what food groups he has for lunch.
Investigation and Inquiry, Life Science

One World, One Sky: Big Bird’s Adventure Planetarium Show
(one at the Science Center)
Follow Sesame Street’s Big Bird and Elmo as they explore the night sky with Hu Hu Zhu, a Muppet from Zhima Jie, the Chinese co-production of Sesame Street. Together, they take an imaginary trip from Sesame Street to the moon, where they discover how different it is from Earth. Children attending the show can interact as they watch, drawing constellations and counting the time it takes the sun to set.
Investigation and Inquiry, Earth and Space

Space Explorers
Join us as we travel the vast solar system. Your class of space explorers will learn about astronauts as they try on a space helmet and travel to the inner and outer planets of our solar system with hands-on inflatable planets. We will also learn about the sun while making “sun-indicator” necklaces, and watch the beads change color as we head outside to observe the effects of this giant star.
Investigation and Inquiry, Earth and Space
More Early Childhood Education Programs

Touch Tank (only at the Science Center)
Your students will experience ocean organisms through observation, touch and fun narration. They will learn how animals are interdependent upon another and the environment while learning that all animals are alike in some ways and different in others. They will discover how these creatures have internal and external structures that keep them alive, help them grow, and reproduce.
Investigation and Inquiry, Life Science, Environmental Awareness

Wacky Weather
Earth’s wacky weather can control what we wear, what we do and what we eat. Interact with our wacky weather puppets as we explore sun, rain, clouds, snowflakes and rainbows. Students will experience very cold through hands-on ice cube experiments and very hot while making sun-indicator necklaces to view outside. Students will also get to make their own "snow."
Investigation and Inquiry, Physical Science, Earth and Space

Balloons and Bubbles
If your class is fascinated with bubbles, this chemistry program is for you! Using dry ice, students will be amazed as we "magically" blow up a balloon and make bubbles filled with smoke. Students will help make our own bubble solution and bubble-wands to try outside.
Investigation and Inquiry, Physical Science

We are the Dinosaurs
Have dino-sized fun as we transform into paleontologists and learn about the world of Tyrannosaurus Rex, Stegosaurus and Triceratops. Your class will examine toy dinosaur species and real dinosaur fossils, as well as role play some of our favorite dinosaurs. As we learn about the dinosaurs’ extinction, students will handle a real meteorite and watch a volcano erupt!
Investigation and Inquiry, Life Science

Looking underneath a sea star as part of the Touch Tank program
for the explorer.
BEFORE CALLING THE SCIENCE CENTER TO BOOK A VISIT

- Verify your dates with your school administration
- Confirm transportation availability
- Determine how many students and chaperones will be visiting (see chaperone notes)
- Choose a Science Center exploration or add an educational program

Once you have all of this, call us at (561) 832-2026! Please call between 9am and 4pm, Monday through Friday. If you need to leave a message, be sure to include the time and date of your request, your organization name, the number of students, and the best way to reach you.

After you schedule your visit with us, you will receive a confirmation fax or email. Please sign and return the form.

ON THE DAY OF YOUR VISIT

- Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled time, to ensure a great experience.
- Buses can drop students off at the front door and then park in designated spots, west of traffic loop. Vehicles may not remain parked in the traffic loop. Drivers can enter exhibit area at no charge.
- When you arrive, please know the total number of students and chaperones in your group. The group leader will need to check in at the front desk upon arrival.
- Your group will be greeted by Science Center staff and directed to your first activity.
- Students must be supervised by their teacher at all times.

LUNCHES

Visitors have the option to bring their own lunches, or they can purchase lunches through Subway at the Science Center. There are picnic tables available for groups for your lunch or snacks. If possible, we recommend leaving coolers, etc. on the bus until lunch time.

CHAPERONE NOTES

One chaperone is required per 5 students at $6.00 per chaperone. Chaperones must be accounted for when final headcount is submitted. *Groups will still be subject to the $6.00 per 5 student chaperone charge even if the minimum requirement is not met.

ON THE DAY OF THE CLASS

- Due to material limitations, presentations and students cannot be added the day of the program.
- Our science educator will need a table at the front of the room. Laboratories require students to be seated at tables and access to a sink.

OUTREACH NOTES

Have the Science Center come to you! Our science educator will bring a kit of materials and equipment to teach many of our programs at your school.

PAYMENT POLICY AND FEES

- A 20% non-refundable deposit is due within 14 days of confirming your reservation.
- Final payment and headcount are due 14 days prior to your scheduled visit.
- No refunds or credits will be made for no-shows the day of visit.
- If final payment has not been received by the indicated day, reservations are subject to cancellation and your group may not be admitted. NO REFUNDS WILL BE GRANTED. Cancellations made seven (7) or more days prior to scheduled visits will be refunded less the 20% deposit. Rescheduling cannot be guaranteed due to limited availability.

- On the day of your scheduled visit, check in for your group at the Front Desk under your group/contact name. Additional tickets may be purchased at the group rate, on the day of your scheduled visit, providing space is available.
- Acceptable forms of payment are check, money order, or credit card (Visa or MasterCard).
- Please make checks or money orders payable to South Florida Science Center and Aquarium and mail to: South Florida Science Center, 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach, FL 33405, Attention: Group Sales
- Surcharges may apply for special event days and holidays.
- Science Center Memberships, coupons and other discounts are not applicable with school group rates.
- Teacher Members receive $25 off the total cost of their first program.
- Instructors reserve the right to stop program at any time if student behavior is inappropriate.

## In Preparation For Your Visit

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<th>ADMISSION</th>
<th>EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS</th>
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<td>Students $6.00</td>
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<td>Chaperone $6.00</td>
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**CLASSROOM OUTREACH HOUR-LONG PROGRAM** *(recommended for ages 4-6)*

- $200.00 per class (up to 25 students)
- $100.00 each additional class
- $1.00 per mile, staff and supply transportation fee

**CLASSROOM OUTREACH HALF HOUR-LONG PROGRAM** *(recommended for ages 2-3)*

- $140.00 per class (up to 25 students)
- $60.00 each additional class
- $1.00 per mile, staff and supply transportation fee

Field Trips

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Early Childhood Education Guide
### Program Request Form

**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY AND MAIL, FAX OR EMAIL TO:**
South Florida Science Center, Attn: Group Sales Office, 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach, FL 33405; Fax (561) 832-4461; or programs@sfsciencecenter.org.

To sign up over the phone please call our groups sales manager at (561) 832-2026 or email us at programs@sfsciencecenter.org. All calls will be returned within one business day.

Please note that your reservation date is not secured until our group sales office has contacted you with your confirmation number.

Teacher's Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Preferred Email: ___________________________
School Name: ___________________________ Fax: ___________________________
School Address: ___________________________
City: __________________ Zip Code: __________ School Phone: ___________________________
Program: __________________ Grade Level: __________________

Is this program to be performed at the Science Center or at your school?  ■ Science Center  ■ school

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Payment Method: ■ Check (CK # ___________________________)  ■ VISA  ■ MASTERCARD
Credit Card #: ___________________________ Exp. Date: __________________
Signature: ___________________________

Teacher members can receive $25 off their first program and 20% off each additional program booked for twelve months. A 20% non-refundable payment is due within 14 days of confirming your reservation (booking date).

Only credit will be granted for overages. You must cancel at least 24 hours before your scheduled program by phone or email to avoid a $50 cancellation fee.

■ JOIN AS TEACHER MEMBER ($20)  ALREADY A TEACHER MEMBER? ID number ___________________________

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**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Confimation no.: ___________________________  Total Cost: ___________________________
“The program was an absolute adventure in our classroom. The students were enthralled with the hands on activities. We had the SPACE Program presented to our Pre-K class. The children loved learning about the planets. Having the actual planet shape, color and size made the impact so much more meaningful.”

Kathleen Colombino, Palm Beach County Lead Teacher

“The children loved the hands on experience, and it made the vocabulary that we had been practicing in our unit of study ‘come alive!’”

Dionne Ellis, Palm Beach County Lead Teacher

“This was a great outreach… with many topics to choose from to motivate young children.”

Reina Schmitt, Palm Beach County Lead Teacher

“This has been such a great learning experience for my son and me… I’ve watched both his vocabulary and curiosity grow in the last few months. I look forward to more classes.”

Angela Keith, Early Learning Parent

Have the South Florida Science Center come and take over your Science Night for your school! We offer 20 interactive science activities, experiments, and demos that will ROCK your Science Night! Your students will excite electrons by touching a plasma ball, hold a giant millipede in the palm of their hands, watch bubbles mist with a subzero dry ice experiment, and drop different size “meteorites” into a simulated moon terrain to measure crater size.

Each science station comes with materials and training instructions for an adult volunteer. A Center’s science specialist will be on hand to answer questions and to ensure an amazing Science Night!

For more information or to book your Fun With Science Night, call 561-832-2026 or email education@sfsm.org

Schools supply a large room, 20 tables, and 20 volunteers. The Science Center brings the rest!