

Home School at Explora

Spring 2010 Class Activities

Grades 2-4



Classes begin the week of January 25 and end the week of May 3.

There are no classes the week of March 15-19 due to Explora Spring Break Camp.

1. "Be a Rock Star" This isn't about music; it's about geology! Students use microscopes and loupes to discover the main types of rocks, and perform a series of tests to unearth a mystery mineral.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard II, BM II, PS 3-1, 4-1

2. "Gravity Rules!" Do heavier objects fall faster than lighter objects? Students investigate the force of gravity by balancing unusually shaped objects and experimenting with their own centers of gravity.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard I, BM II, PS 4-2 and BM III, PS 3-3, 4-3

3. "Forced into Action" Get on the move with Isaac Newton and discover the laws that govern motion. Eggs may break and balls will fly as students experiment with simple toys to learn about inertia and to determine the forces, velocity and acceleration of objects in motion.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and BM III, PS 3-2 and Strand II, Standard I, BM II, 4-1,2 and BM III PS 4-2,3,4

4. "Galileo's Universe" Students gravitate toward experiments that have them swinging pendulums, rolling masses, and dropping objects as they explore several of Galileo's famous experiments. By recording and analyzing data, students learn about the actions of pendulums and the laws that govern falling objects.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard I, BM II, PS 4-2 and BM III, PS 3-3, 4-2,3,4

5. "Building a Memory" Students use their own bodies to understand tension and other architectural forces in this constructive exploration. They also discover elementary structural principals and model-building techniques as they create their own unique architectural structures.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard I, BM III, PS 4-4

Art: Standards 1, 3, and 8

6. "Science of Soap" You are always being told to wash your hands, so find out why as we explore the science of soap. We'll explore the spread of germs and test different soaps.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II

7. "Looking Up Close" Students use microscopes and magnifiers to discover the fascinating world of organisms and elements among us. Explore the structures and functions of a variety of interesting features among a micro-world of bugs, plants and rocks.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard II, BM I, PS 3-2, 4-1

8. "In Contrast: Chemistry, Light and Photos" In this exploration, students become "sensitive" to light. Experiment with black-and-white photographic paper, penlights and photo-chemicals to create abstract drawings and prints with light.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard I, BM I, PS 4-1

Art: Standards 1, 3 and 8

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9. "Out of the Blue" How do you create a photographic image using light from the sun? In this exploration you will apply chemicals to paper and manipulate variables to make your own unique prints.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II

Art: Standards 1, 3 and 8

10. "In Defense of Spiders" This interactive courtroom drama in the Explora Theater will not determine the fate of spiders ... or will it? You decide! Audience members play a part in this test of arachnid justice.

Science: Strand II, Standard II, BM I, PS 3-1,2 and BM II, PS 4-2,3

Theater: Standards 1, 3, 5, 6, 8

11. "Water Filtration" Students experiment with a variety of filtering materials to filter water samples. Students test their samples before and after for turbidity, hardness and pH and find out how effective different filtration methods may be.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard III, BM II, PS 3-1 and Strand III, Standard I, BM I, PS 4-1

12. "Water on the Move" How does water move through soil? Students design, build and test aquifer models to track contaminants, water tables and well levels.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard III, BM II, PS 3-1 and Strand III, Standard I, BM I, PS 4-1

13. "Classy Investigation" We take the mystery out of animal classification! Students discover the five major vertebrate classes, build 3-D classification keys and use their new skills to solve an animal mystery.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard II, BM I, PS 3-2,3 and 4-1

14. "Ecology of the Forest" Play in the dirt to discover who and what is in it. Test soil samples for absorption and percolation, and find out how soil supports the health of the forest and the lives within it.

Science: Strand I, Standard I, BM I, II and Strand II, Standard I, BM I, PS 3-2 and Strand II, Standard II, BM II, PS 3-1

Information and Registration

For more information or registration, call 505.224.8341, or e-mail inquiries to: reservations@explora.us.

Para información en español, llame al 505.224.8323.

All registrations must be accompanied by full payment. We accept cash, checks, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. Please make all checks payable to Explora. For mail-in registration, complete the registration form available online at www.explora.us (Programs/Homeschool), and send it with payment to: Explora, 1701 Mountain Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104.

Cancellation Policy

If a cancellation is received at least 5 business days before the first class, a refund will be issued for the amount minus a 15% administration fee. Cancellations received fewer than 5 business days before the first class will not be refunded. Full fees will be refunded if Explora cancels a program.