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For Immediate Release

**Explora and the Coalition for Science Learning in Early Childhood present:
The 2023 Summit for Early Science Learning and
Worldwide Day of Play, September 30, 2023**

Albuquerque, NM—Explora and the Coalition for Science Learning in Early Childhood are proud to provide New Mexico early childhood educators and investors with a valuable professional development opportunity: the 2023 Summit for Early Science Learning on Saturday, September 30, 2023 from 8:00 am - 3:30 pm. This unique, annual gathering of stakeholders, providers, and teachers features sessions at three important centers of learning and culture in Albuquerque: Explora, the Albuquerque Museum, and the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science.

This year's summit will serve 200 participants from across the state, who will collaborate and learn, share best practices, and unite to invest in our youngest learners. Attendees also will tour each museum, connecting exhibits, programs, and key STEAM opportunities with classroom curricula. The summit will launch at the Albuquerque Museum with a keynote presentation from Tara Hughes, New Mexico's 2023 Teacher of the Year, followed by a demonstration from Melissa Alderete, also known as "Science Girl." Registrants can attend a wide array of flexible sessions at both Explora and the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, featuring computer science, color, math milestones, dance, and an incredible catalog of inspiring STEAM topics meant to invigorate and bolster attendees with creative strategies that are ready for use in any classroom environment the very next morning.

Victoria Roanhorse, Manager of the Coalition for Science Learning in Early Childhood, states, “Experiential STEAM learning is Explora’s specialty, so we’re happy to get together with the educational community through professional development summits like these that focus on STEAM learning—especially when they’re geared toward the most formative time in a child’s life. Early childhood is when the greatest impact can be made, and we can unify to do it together.” Summit registration is only \$15, but tickets are limited. Participants will receive swag bags of \$100 worth of materials, in addition to continuing education hours.

As an added bonus that same day, Explora will be participating with the Association of Children’s Museums in Nickelodeon’s “*Our World: Worldwide Day of Play*,” a global event that celebrates joyful learning through play, while keeping families healthy, engaged, and active. Explora will host a playful building activity for families of all ages in the *Experiment Bar* from 10 am - 5 pm, and the PNC Grow Up Great Mobile Learning Adventure will be set up outside of Explora from 1 pm - 5 pm for children’s enjoyment. Kids can tinker at a variety of stations, like a Costume Wall, Storytelling Tree, and much more!

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About Explora: Explora is a science center and children’s museum in Albuquerque, with a mission of creating opportunities for inspirational discovery and the joy of lifelong learning through interactive experiences in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). Explora serves thousands of people of all backgrounds each year and is dedicated to improving New Mexico’s educational and economic outcomes.