

New Sciencenter exhibit to open



SIMON WHEELER / STAFF PHOTO

Kathy Krafft, of Dryden, the traveling exhibitions curator, and Facilities Manager and Exhibit Fabricator Mike Napierski, of Danby, assemble the TreeHouses exhibit Wednesday afternoon at the Sciencenter in Ithaca. The new exhibit opens at 10 a.m. Saturday.

'TreeHouses' will teach about trees, animals and birds

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The Sciencenter is looking to teach visitors about trees and the animals and birds that live in them.

The center's new temporary exhibit "Tree Houses" opens at 10 a.m. Saturday.

There are two main components to the accessible exhibit. The first has two tree houses connected by ramps that get visitors to several hands-on exhibits including close-up looks at creatures such as a pine martin, a wood duck, a porcupine and a pileated woodpecker.

Other parts of the tree house sections include recorded forest sounds and 3-D views of spiders insects and tree frogs that are hidden in the trees.

The second major part is a kitchen that illustrates how trees are present in homes, from the walls and furniture to foods and drinks. A user-controlled video shows how trees are harvested, turned into lumber and built into a house. A game teaches visitors about how to log a forest sustainably.

The exhibit will be in Ithaca until May. The Sciencenter is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

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