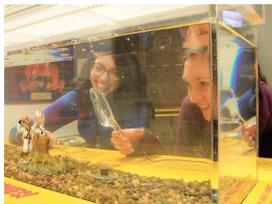


Spend winter break learning at Sciencenter

AMY GAULKE 10:43 p.m. EST February 8, 2016

Learn about bloodsuckers, liquid nitrogen and more



(Photo: Provided)

Looking for a great way to keep the kids active and entertained over winter break? Come explore at the Sciencenter! With a full month of exciting activities and new exhibits, you and your family are sure to have some fun and learn something new along the way.

Bloodsuckers have invaded and they're itching for their next bite. Explore the science of what bites you at our new featured exhibition, Attack of the Bloodsuckers! Discover the what, why, when and how of mosquitoes, fleas, ticks, leeches and other parasites as you examine bloodsuckers from around the world. Learn how mosquitoes use carbon dioxide to help them find their next meal, check out the live leech tank and try to determine which end is the biting end, and make sure to watch out for Ms. Phillipa Tick — she'll grow on you!

Kick off school break with some "cool" science as the Sciencenter's Emily Cotman demonstrates the power of -320 degrees. Discover how different items — from bananas to bubbles — react to extreme temperatures at the special winter break program: "Liquid Nitrogen – The Coolest Demonstration" at 2 p.m. Friday.

During winter break, the Sciencenter is also participating in the citywide initiative Ithaca Loves Teachers. From Feb. 12-21, K-12 teachers with school ID receive free admission for themselves and a guest. Throughout the week, Sciencenter volunteers will host special hands-on activities related to our featured exhibition, Attack of the Bloodsuckers! Come make your own origami jumping flea, play a scent matching game to learn how bloodsuckers seek out food, discover how a mosquito sees and more. And for an extra day of science fun, the Sciencenter is open on Presidents Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday.



Learn about the icy properties of liquid nitrogen on Friday at Sciencenter. (Photo: Provided)

When you take a break from playing, stop in to browse all of the fun and educational games, toys, and books at the Sciencenter Store. Between Friday and Feb. 21, you can save big on specially marked items throughout the store.

The fun doesn't have to stop after school break is over. The Sciencenter offers weekly programming for all ages all month long. Check out some thrilling chemical reactions with students from Cornell Chemistry, or investigate optical illusions to learn how your brain controls your five senses at Showtime. Engage with your little ones while experimenting with slime, invisible ink and more at Exploring Science. And tinker with recycled materials and electricity as you create your own moving contraptions at Moto-Inventions. Check out the complete calendar of events at www.sciencenter.org/calendar (<http://www.sciencenter.org/calendar>).

Plan your visit or purchase a membership at www.sciencenter.org (<http://www.sciencenter.org>), call 272-0600 or visit our front desk. Sciencenter hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday or 12 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Museum admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$6 for children 2-17 years, and free to members and to kids under 2. The Sciencenter is a proud member of the Discovery Trail.

Gaulke is the public and media relations manager for Sciencenter.

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