

# Sciencenter summer camps offer learning, adventure

AMY GAULKE 2:42 p.m. EST March 8, 2016



(Photo: Provided)

Ignite your child's imagination this summer with the amazing world of science at Sciencenter Summer Camp!

The Sciencenter offers one- and two-week day camps for children entering kindergarten through grade 6 in the fall. Each camp session promotes creative thinking and encourages campers to explore their curiosity while they solve science-themed challenges. With five different camp themes to choose from — ranging from space to the circus — there's something for everyone.

A typical day at Sciencenter Summer Camp is loud, messy, fast-moving, and full of fun! Campers interact with other curious kids, Sciencenter staff, and local scientists in our friendly camp community. Each camp session combines fun and games with exciting, hands-on science activities, experiments, field trips, special presentations, and museum exploration. Science experience is not required — a full variety of topics and activities will appeal to all levels of science knowledge.

Each of our five camp sessions is chock full of scientific exploration and discovery.



Five different themes are available this year for Sciencenter summer camps. (Photo: Provided)

•**Itty Bitty Scientists:** In this special session for children entering kindergarten through 1st grade, campers will focus on general science processes through activities like building boats, mixing slime, and launching rockets.

•**Explore! Mission to Mars:** 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... liftoff! Campers will discover what it takes to put humans on Mars. Explore astronomy, geology, and biology through activities such as building rockets, designing a Martian habitat, and using robotic “rovers” to explore uncharted territory.

•**Build! Circus Engineering:** Come one, come all to a spectacular summer of engineering challenges and activities including designing a roller coaster, creating a mesmerizing light show, and building whipped cream catapults.

•**Investigate! Forensics:** Whodunnit? Campers will analyze physical “evidence” to solve a Sciencenter mystery. Activities include using microscopes, extracting DNA, and building a miniature getaway car.

•**Experiment! Science Around the World:** In this two-week session, campers will investigate scientific research from across the globe, past and present, and learn about the scientists involved. They'll build boats with the experts of ancient Polynesia, extract DNA with biologists in modern Kenya, and stargaze in Chile's Atacama Desert.



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For science enthusiasts entering grades 7 and 8, the Sciencenter offers the Future Science Leaders Counselor-in-Training+ (CIT+) program. In addition to assisting campers and camp staff, CIT+ participants are given leadership roles delivering museum programming, developing digital media pieces for camp, and participating in scientific research projects with museum guests. Applications are available to download on our website.

Summer Camp registration opens on March 23 at 10am online or in person, and Sciencenter members receive a discount on camp registration. To learn more about Sciencenter Summer Camp or membership, visit us online at [www.sciencenter.org](http://www.sciencenter.org) (<http://www.sciencenter.org>) or call 272-0600.

Sign up for our monthly e-News to stay in the know, and join us on Facebook and Twitter for exclusive photos and news. Sciencenter hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 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 toddlers under 2 years old. The Sciencenter is a proud member of the Discovery Trail.

*Gaulke is the public and media relations manager at the Sciencenter.*



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