

My Visit to The Children's Museum of Indianapolis



I am going to **The Children's Museum of Indianapolis**. I will know we are there when I see the dinosaurs!



When we get to the museum, I may will stay close to my family or group. We may bring along things we might need during our visit, like jackets, snacks, and strollers.



I will use the Skywalk above the street to go inside the museum.



When I go inside the Welcome Center, I will see a giant toy robot named Bumblebee. Sometimes, it may rotate or talk. There are also restroom we might use before we enter with our tickets.



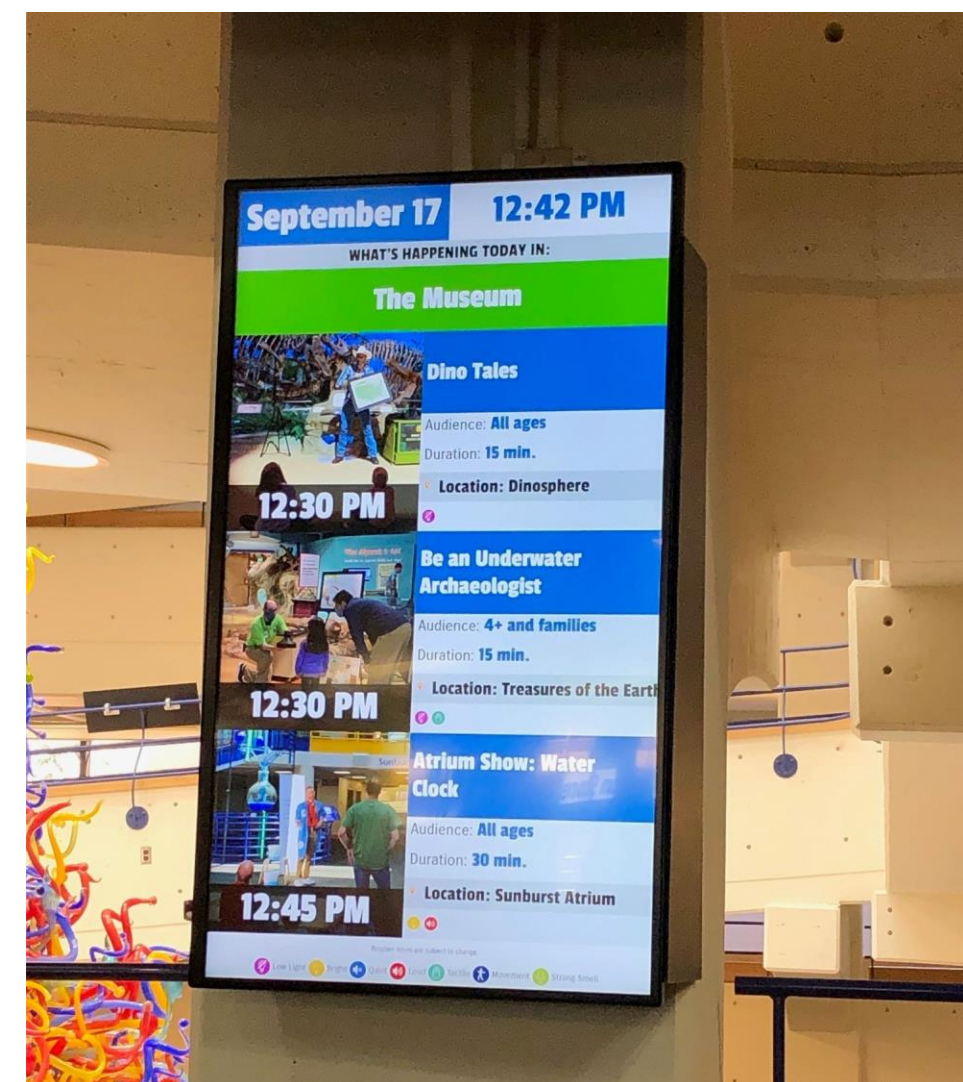
Museum staff wear name tags like this one. Many of them wear shirts that have the museum logo on them, but some wear costumes in the exhibits. A staff member can tell me about the exhibits or help me if I get lost.



There are many fun exhibits! May family or group and I can make a list of what we want to see and do on this visit. We may not have time to explore the whole museum. Also, we may have to wait in line for a few things around the museum.



Many exhibits have free activities we may choose to join. We can check the screens and signs near the exhibits and program rooms or look on the website for details, like times and sensory information.

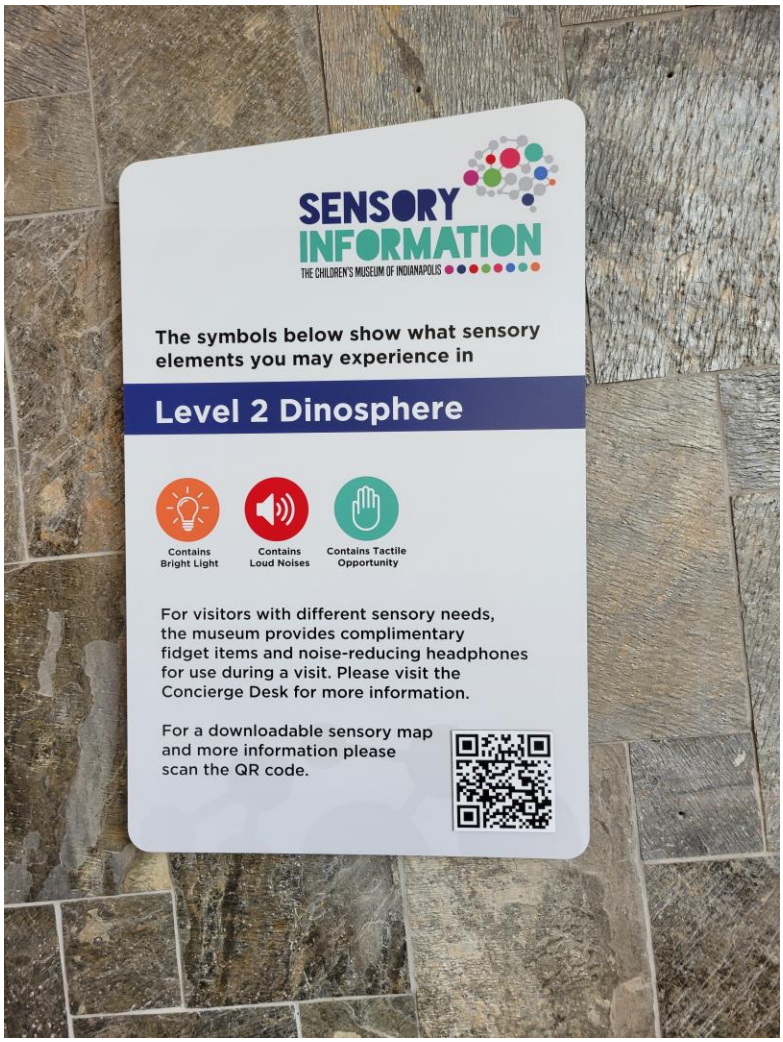


Each exhibit and activity has signage with sensory icons at the entrance to help us know what is inside or what may occur in the exhibit or during the activity. We can use these to choose what to do. An adult in my group can scan the QR code to get more information, like the sensory map of the museum's exhibits.

Sensory maps

Our sensory maps provide information about the layout of the museum and indicate areas that are sensory-heavy, as well as those that may be less stimulating. Symbols indicate if a particular area:

	Low Light		Bright Light		Quiet Areas
	Loud Noises		Tactile Opportunity		Movement Opportunity
	Strong Smell		Flashing/Lightning		



If I want to see the exhibits in the indoor sports area or play sports outside, we will enter through the ***Riley Children's Health Sports Legends Experience®*** archway. We will scan our tickets or membership cards at these entry gates.



The first gallery on the right is ***Extreme Sports: Beyond Human Limits***. Here, we can test our knowledge of different extreme sports skills, training, and first aid.



This exhibit will be open through Sept. 7, 2026.

In *The World of Sport*, I can learn about different sports and practice my athletic skills. I will hear many sounds, from race cars to scoreboards.



In the **National Art Museum of Sport**, I can look at artwork. This is a quieter space, but I may hear music playing and sounds from the next gallery.



Outside in the *Riley Children's Health Sports Legends Experience*®, we can play 10 different sports! There are many ways to play and a walking path.



Outdoor sports is open for the season from March 14 – Nov. 1, 2026.

Out here, there are restrooms, concession stands, and tables near the **Kohler Pavillion**. I may also climb inside **The Children's Museum Guild's Fantasy Tree House of Sport!**



We can go back inside and across the Welcome Center to enter the main entry gates. We will scan out tickets or memberships cards here. This side of the museum has five floors of fun!



We can use the ramp to go between floors. There is a colorful glass sculpture in the middle. We may also take the elevators.



We can enter ***Dinosphere***® on Level 1. This exhibit has many areas, like the ramp, the dome, the marine hallway, and the art lab. Here, I can look at the museum's dig site and two huge sauropods! There are sound and light shows that play on the large wall along the ramp.



On the Lower Level, many fossil favorites are still in the dome, like the *Tyrannosaurus rexes* and Super Croc. The dome has a day-night cycle that may act like a thunderstorm. This exhibit has a sensory-friendly mode daily from 4-5 p.m.



Please note: You may hear loud noises from nearby gallery construction.

Across from the dome, there is a Paleo Prep Lab window. I can watch scientists work on fossils or talk to them. I may even be able to touch real fossils! There is also a blue-tinted hallway filled with marine fossils. Inside ***Dinosphere***®, I can see the dome from a distance using the overlooks on Levels 1 and 2.



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All Aboard! is on the Lower Level between the main ramp and *Dinosphere*®. This gallery is temporarily closed. As work continues in this space, you may notice intermittent sounds, loud noises, dust, and flashing lights or images. The train tables are placed on other floors, so we can still play with them.



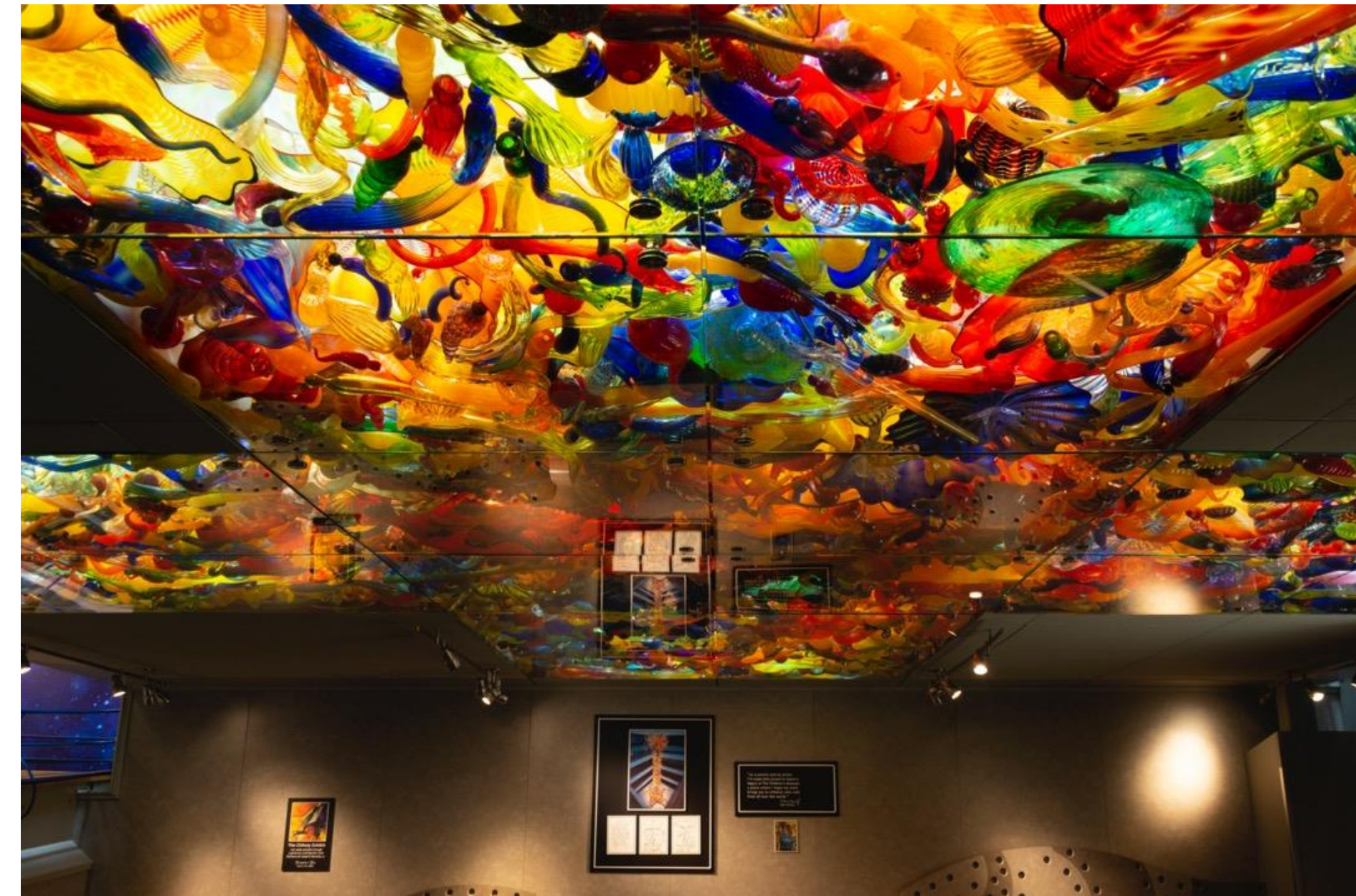
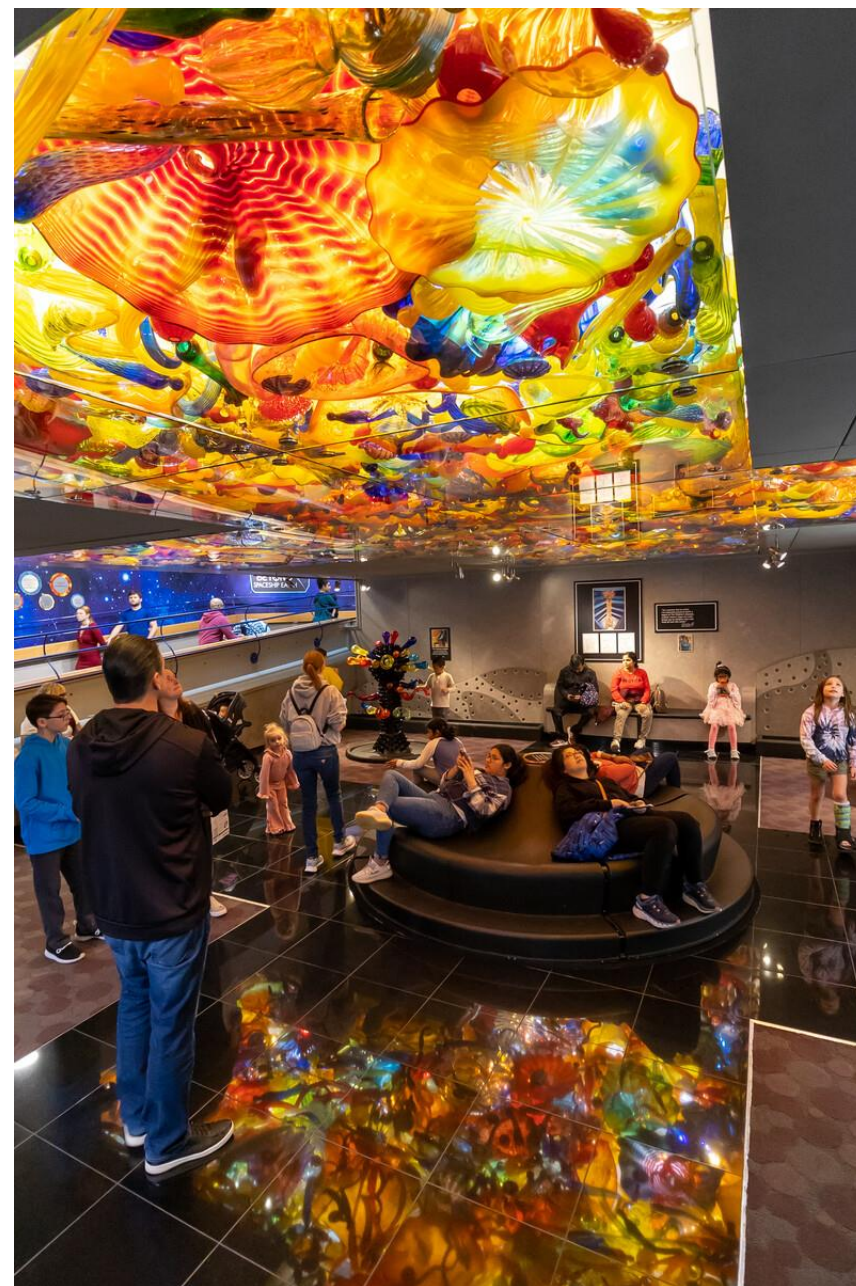
Please note: This gallery is closed for renovation until Fall 2026.

In *National Geographic Treasures Of The Earth*, I can visit an Egyptian tomb, a shipwreck, and an army of Terra Cotta Warriors. The tomb is a darker space, but I may see flashing lights during the sound and light show. These areas can often be loud.



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In ***Fireworks of Glass***, I can see colorful glass sculptures and look for special pieces in the ceiling. This can be a quiet space on less busy days.



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In *Beyond Spaceship Earth*, I can play games and learn about being an astronaut on the International Space Station. This is a smaller space with lots of colors and patterns.



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We may choose to see a show in the **Schaefer Planetarium and Space Object Theater**. A staff member might show me where to sit. This space will be dark during the show, so everyone can see the video on the dome. The show is loud, and the seats might rumble.



We may plan to watch a live theater performance in the *Lilly Theater*.
Check the website, lobby monitors, or show posters or ask a staff member for information on the next show.



On Level 1, in the Sunburst Atrium, we may look at the Water Clock.
The Concierge is located near the ramp wall. Activities may take place
in the atrium during the day.



On Level 2, we can adventure through ***Take Me There®: Peru***. There are three regions: the city and coast, the mountains, and the rainforest. I can explore Peruvian cultures and languages. I can play in the market, try new instruments or dances, and learn about art forms, like weaving or silver embossing.



Near *Take Me There*®: Peru on Level 2, ***Stories From Our Community*** shows new artwork from local Black artists. There is also a case honoring Crispus Attucks and the USA's 250th anniversary. I can learn about a local school named for Crispus Attucks and touch commemorative coins.



Also on Level 2, we can visit ***Tiana's Joyful Celebration***. Tiana is making the final preparations for the Mardi Gras parade and needs help! We can decorate parade floats, design costumes, or paint a mural. I may also learn some dance steps or rehearse with the band.



Exhibit runs from March 7, 2026 – Jan. 3, 2027

Several times during the day, a finale moment will occur in the gallery. Gather around the royal-themed float to join the celebration. A song will play while the lights change in the gallery, on the floats, and on the string lights above.



Exhibit runs from March 7, 2026 – Jan. 3, 2027

The **Celebration Square** is in the gallery next to ***Tiana's Joyful Celebration***. Here, I can enjoy more activities related to Tiana and Mardi Gras parade festivities. We can learn about Walt Disney Imagineering or take a picture inside the gazebo. We may also purchase New Orleans-themed snacks.



This space will be open from March 21 – early Fall 2026.

There are more dinosaur elements to explore in Level 2 ***Dinosphere***® and the **Dinosphere Art Lab**. I can learn how sauropods grew so big! I may see different art styles as scientists and artists explore how dinosaurs may have looked when they were alive. I can also color my own dinosaur and watch it come to life!



Through the purple arch into *American POP*, I can look at toys, books, comics, and costumes! I can create my own superhero or play matching games with music clips. There are many bright colors and different sounds in this space.



On Level 3 in **Playscape®**, I can explore in many ways! I might play at the water table or the sand tables. We can use building blocks, art supplies, and instruments. This space may smell like a swimming pool from the product used to keep the water clean. It can also be loud.



Playscape® is best suited for children from 0-5 years old.

Please Note: *Playscape®* will be closed from Sept. 8—Nov. 7, 2026, for maintenance and renovations to the water table.

On Level 3, we might use the **Take a Break Space** near the *Take Me There*® overlook. This is a smaller room we can use to take a break or have a quiet moment. When we are ready, we can continue exploring the museum.



We might visit ***The Power of Children®***. Inside, I will hear stories about brave children who faced big challenges. I can learn about their stories and how they made changes in history! There are voice recordings and a few motion-activated sounds. Each building has timed sound-and-light shows and more formal activities.



The Power of Children® is best suited for school-aged children. The shows in this exhibit can be loud and have more stimulating audio and visual effects.

On Level 4, I can look at miniature houses in **Mini Masterpieces**. I can learn how miniatures are made and create my own design on a touchscreen.



In ***ScienceWorks***, I can learn about nature and science. I may watch real animals around The Pond, play at the water table, or explore rocks and landscapes. I may also learn how things work in houses or on farms. This space may smell like a swimming pool from the product used to keep the water in the water table clean.



Inside *Carousel Wishes and Dreams*, I can use my imagination to play! I can go inside the different houses or move through the mirror maze. I may also play older video and table games. This space may be louder from the Carousel music.



Here, I may ride a real Carousel! I will wait in line until it is my turn and choose where to sit. My adult can stand near me or sit on the benches. The Carousel has lights and will play a song for the ride.



Carousel rides are free for member children and children under age 2; nonmember cost is \$2 per ride per child. Riding of Carousel animals is limited to children 17 and under only. Adults are still welcome to sit on the benches or stand beside their child at no cost but are not permitted to ride on the animals.

If we get hungry or thirsty, we might visit the **Food Court** on Level 1. I may have to wait in line to get my food. We can also bring our own food and use the dining space to eat.



We might visit **The Museum Store** across from the Food Court on Level 1. There are many books, toys, or clothing items for visitors to buy. Often, music will play in the store. There is a dinosaur who may move or make sounds in its enclosure.



At the end of our visit, I can wave goodbye to the dinosaurs. I had a great day at **The Children's Museum of Indianapolis!**



From all of us at **The Children's Museum of Indianapolis**, we can't wait to see you again!

