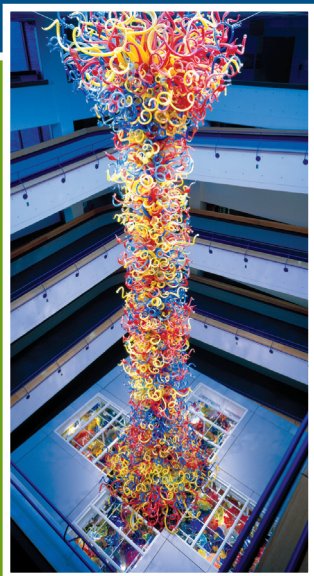


Early Learner's Guide to The Children's Museum



This Early Learner's Guide was created to help you and your child have a personal, fun, and meaningful visit. The suggested programs and experiences will have your child learning, investigating, and discovering the museum in new ways. Each suggested experience is matched with Indiana Early Learning Foundations to help you better understand the child development and academic learning that takes place. Visit childrensmuseum.org/visit/calendar for program times.

This guide will be updated with new exhibits and experiences, so visit again soon for new places and ways to explore the museum!





Join in on the Fun

Visit the **toy train table**, located near the Tool Car in the back of the gallery. Connect, push, and pull trains as they navigate their way around winding tracks.

Program—All Aboard with the Reuben Wells

Explore the history of this one-of-a-kind Indiana artifact and hear how the Reuben Wells steam engine came to the museum!

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*SS2.2:

Demonstrate awareness of historical knowledge

*SC1.1:

Demonstrate ability to explore objects in a physical world

*ELA1.3:

Demonstrate ability to engage in conversations

Explore on Your Own

Watch the replica Reuben Wells train make its way up the hill in the town of Madison, Indiana. Ask your child, "Which way is the train traveling?" Have them walk or skip up and down the exhibit ramp. Can they describe which direction was easier to travel? Have a conversation with your child about incline and decline. Discuss how the Reuben Wells train was unlike any other because it was a "helper locomotive" and helped push other trains.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*PHG3.1:

Demonstrate development of fine and gross motor coordination

*SS3.2:

Demonstrate awareness of places and regions

*SC1.1:

Demonstrate ability to explore objects in a physical world

Fireworks of Glass



Join in on the Fun

Be inspired and build your own sculpture using the replica pieces of Chihuly glass. Take pieces off the wall to design and construct your own unique sculpture.

Program—Fireworks of Glass, Tools of the Trade

Explore the tools used by glassblowers to create glass sculptures like those in the pergola ceiling! Join us under the glass!

This program will occur on the Lower Level in the Fireworks of Glass exhibit space. It will last approximately 15 minutes.

Explore on Your Own

Ask your child if a glass piece reminds them of anything they have seen in nature. Perhaps a shell, horn, or leaf? Chihuly drew inspiration from nature and oftentimes his glass pieces remind viewers of things they have seen before. Play a game of I Spy with your child. Pick one glass piece in the ceiling and use words that describe its color, shape, and size. Can your child find the Chihuly piece? Switch roles and let your child have a turn describing a piece for you to find.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*CA3.3:

Demonstrate creative expression through art appreciation

*M4.2:

Exhibit ability to identify, describe, analyze, compare, and create shapes

*SC1.1:

Demonstrate ability to explore objects in a physical world

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*APL3.1:

Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence

*ELA1.3:

Demonstrate ability to engage in conversations

*M4.2:

Exhibit ability to identify, describe, analyze, compare, and create shapes



Explore on Your Own

Be an astronaut and operate the Canadarm! Use the same controllers that astronauts use inside the International Space Station (ISS) to move the robotic arm outside the space station. Follow the directions and move the Canadarm from left to right and up and down to receive cargo arriving to the ISS.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

- *M4.1: Understanding of spatial relationships
- *APL1.1: Demonstrate initiative and self-direction
- *SC 2.1: Recognize the characteristics of Earth and sky



Treasures of the Earth

Join in on the Fun

Program—Decoding the Past

Explore the role of looking at ancient languages found on artifacts to find clues on how people in the past used them. Then work together with your family to complete a code-breaking activity related to one of three separate archaeological sites featured in *Treasures of the Earth*.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*SS2.2:

Demonstrate awareness of historical knowledge

*ELA2.3:

Demonstrate awareness and understanding of concepts of print

*APL1.2:

Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner

Explore on Your Own

Step inside Seti's tomb and take a look at the hieroglyphics around you. Ask your child if they recognize any symbols or pictures. Discuss with your child how ancient Egyptians had their own hieroglyphic alphabet and used symbols and pictures to communicate. Have your child become the archeologist and let them decode and create their own story using the hieroglyphs on the tomb's wall.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*SS 3.3:

Demonstrate awareness of environment and society

*ELA2.3:

Demonstrate awareness and understanding of concepts of print

*ELA3.2:

Demonstrate ability to communicate a story

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DORA & DIEGO

LET'S EXPLORE!

PRESENTED BY



Riley Children's Health
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Join in on the Fun

Program—The Friendship Challenge

Explore how to be a good friend, just like Dora! Watch short interactive skits to help identify traits of a good friendship such as sharing, helping friends, being kind, and being a good listener.

Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Save your family a spot by standing on a floor sticker in front of El Estudio.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*SE4.1:

Demonstrate relationship skills

*APL4.1:

Demonstrate development of social interactions during play

*CA4.1:

Demonstrate creative expression through dramatic play

Explore on Your Own

Be just like Dora and Diego and go on your own family adventure in the exhibit. Use the exhibit map to decide where to go and plan your route. Put your plan in sequential order so your child knows what comes next! Use terms like "first," "second," "third," "next," and "last" as you explore. Read labels aloud and share information with your child. Give your child tasks in each area before they can move on to their next adventure. Example: *"Before we leave Isa's Flowery Garden, we must first count all the purple flowers."*

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*M1.3:

Recognition of number relations

*APL1.1:

Demonstrate initiative and self-direction

*CA4.1:

Demonstrate creative expression through dramatic play



Join in on the Fun

A variety of exciting opportunities are presented throughout the day in the Art Studio to encourage families to play, create, and explore together.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*CA3.2:

Demonstrate creative expression through visual art production

*CA1.1:

Demonstrate creative music expression

*ELA3.2:

Demonstrate ability to communicate a story

Explore on Your Own

Build your own city! In Blockopolis, admire two architectural structures and let those models inspire you to build your own. Using the blocks provided, work with your children to construct and build your own museum, skyscraper, or building. Block play allows children to not only be creative and tell a story, but also gives them time to experience and investigate key science and math skills. As they are building, they will expand their knowledge of spatial awareness, shapes, and weight.

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

*SC1.2:

Demonstrate awareness of the physical properties of objects

*APL1.2:

Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner

*M4.1:

Understanding of spatial relationships



Explore on Your Own

Play a game of I Spy with your child. Read the riddle labels around the exhibit and ask your child to help find the mystery objects located in the miniature rooms. After your child locates the objects, show them the corresponding label featuring the riddle. Read the label to your child again and ask them to listen for rhyming words. Can they identify, find, or read the rhyming words on the label? Talk with your child about rhyming words and similar sounds. Can they think of any other words that might rhyme?

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:

- *ELA2.2: Demonstrate phonological awareness
- *ELA2.3: Demonstrate awareness and understanding of concepts of print
- *APL1.1: Demonstrate initiative and self-direction

