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
Program—Preschool Muscle Movers
Get moving with your preschoolers!
• Warm up your core muscles flying like a superhero
• Keep moving with our silly obstacle course
• Discover exercises that work on gross motor skills

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*PHG3.1: Demonstrate development of fine and gross motor coordination
*PHG1.1: Demonstrate development of healthy practices
*SE1.1: Demonstrate self-awareness and confidence

Explore on Your Own
Have fun exploring all of the sports experiences! A Coach is located at the entrance of each experience and can assist your family in activities that best meet your needs.

Be sure to stop by the lawn between the Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever Basketball Experience and the Dr. Cory SerVaas Fitness Path and Jane and Steve Marmon Run-Walk Experience and try our obstacle course for little athletes. Children will have fun balancing, jumping, running, and crawling throughout the course as they develop their gross motor skills.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SE4.1: Demonstrate relationship skills
*APL3.1: Demonstrate development of sustained attention and persistence
*PHG3.1: Demonstrate development of fine and gross motor coordination
Join in on the Fun

Program—Big Dino Fun
Make observations and hear about fossil traits that allow us to imagine how a T. rex moved. Then get up, move, and roar like a T. rex.

This performance includes a large dinosaur puppet and loud sound effects.

Program—Active Play!
(Reggie Wayne Challenge)
Join one of our Coaches from the Riley Children’s Health Sports Legends Experience® who will help you get active and challenge you to score a Super Bowl winning touchdown!

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*CA2.1:
Demonstrate creative expression through dramatic play
*PHG3.1:
Demonstrate development of fine and gross motor coordination
*SE1.1:
Demonstrate self-awareness and confidence

Explore on Your Own
Stop by and check out North America’s largest Water Clock. Observe the clock with your child. Can they identify the numbers on the clock? Using your phone or wrist watch, show your child the current time. Together, notice what happens when minutes or seconds pass by on the Water Clock. What happens on your watch or phone? Discuss the parts of the Water Clock and how the connected siphons work together to tell time.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*M5.1:
Understand concept of time
*SC1.2:
Demonstrate awareness of the physical properties of objects
*APL1.2:
Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner
Explore on Your Own

Study the tracks inside the machine and help navigate the balls using ramps, levers, and pulleys. Watch your ball carefully make its way through the contraption as you learn about simple machines and physics.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SC1.1: Demonstrate ability to explore objects in the physical world
*SC4.1: Demonstrate engineering design skill
*SC5.1: Demonstrate scientific curiosity
Join in on the Fun

Program—Super Hero Master Class
BATMAN™, WONDER WOMAN™ and now YOU! Learn about famous Super Heroes, come up with your own superpower and hero name, and train to defeat evildoers!

Stop by the GOTHAM CITY™ play table! Create and tell a story using your super-powerful imagination and the toy pieces about the Super Heroes in Gotham City.

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

Explore on Your Own
Throughout the gallery you will see life-size cut-outs of Super Heroes so strike a pose and take a picture! As you explore the exhibit discuss with your family what your superpower would be and how you would use your powers to better your community.

In the streets of Gotham City help BATMAN and ROBIN™ find letter clues to unlock the BAT-SIGNAL™. Work as a team to solve the puzzles and take time to identify all of the letters. Ask your child to pronounce each letter’s sound.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SE1.1: Demonstrate self-awareness and confidence
*CA4.1: Demonstrate creative expression through dramatic play
*ELA1.3: Demonstrate ability to engaged in conversation

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*ELA2.1: Demonstrate awareness of the alphabet
*APL.1.1: Demonstrate initiative and self-direction
*SE4.1: Demonstrate relationship skills
**Explore on Your Own**

Do you have the same diet as a *T. rex*? As you observe the cast of *T. rex* Stan’s jaw, count and discuss Stan’s sharp teeth. Ask your child, why would a *T. rex* need such sharp teeth? Together, compare Stan’s teeth and jaw to your own. Discuss the different types of dinosaur diets (carnivore, omnivore, and herbivore) and how this relates to the shape and size of their teeth. Can you and your child think of a dinosaur’s food source for each diet? Discuss what foods your family likes to eat and if you’re a carnivore, omnivore, or herbivore.

**Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:**
* M5.2: Understand measurement through description and comparison
* SC5.1: Demonstrate scientific curiosity
* SS1.1: Demonstrate development of self

Discuss and observe SUE’s skeleton and habitat and then create a story about the life they lived. Take time to observe the graphic backdrop behind SUE and ask your child what they see. Discuss what elements of nature they see or hear and together describe SUE’s habitat while introducing new vocabulary words. Encourage your child to be imaginative and tell a short story about SUE’s life and include details about the environment and how they were a fierce predator.

**Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:**
* ELA1.2: Demonstrate expressive communication
* ELA3.2: Demonstrate ability to communicate a story
* SC3.1: Demonstrate awareness of life

This exhibition was developed by The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis, in partnership with the Field Museum.
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
Explore on Your Own

Take a ride on the Carousel! As you are riding, have your child take a look up. Ask them to notice the different parts of the Carousel above them. Is anything moving or changing? Point out the different machines that help operate the Carousel. Carousel rides are free for members and children under age 2; nonmember cost is $1 per ride.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SC4.1: Demonstrate engineering design skills
*SC5.1: Demonstrate scientific curiosity
*APL1.2: Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner