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!
Explore on Your Own

Take time to observe the three different models of airplane wings. Discuss how airplane wings have changed over time as scientists learned more about flight and aviation. Compare and contrast the model’s wings. What has changed between the models and what has stayed the same? See how the shape of airplane wings affects the plane’s flight. Use the “*Why is a plane’s wing shaped like this?*” interactive to learn more about how airplanes fly and one of the four forces of flight.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SC1.1: Demonstrate ability to explore objects in the physical world
*SC5.1: Demonstrate scientific curiosity
*SC2.2: Demonstrate awareness of historical knowledge
Join in on the Fun

Program—Out of the Park!
Meet a coach who will lead your family in a “See, Think, Wonder” lesson using baseball equipment that has been part of empowering stories of boundary-breaking baseball players. Your family will leave inspired to be their best on and off the field.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*ELA1.3: Demonstrate ability to engage in conversations
*SS2.2: Demonstrate awareness of historical knowledge
*SC1.2: Demonstrate awareness of the physical properties of objects

Explore on Your Own
Test your pitching speed and accuracy at The Strike Zone. Take turns pitching and comparing your pitching speed to boundary-breaking players and our own staff’s average pitch speed. Compare pitching speed numbers. Can your family sequence speeds from slowest to fastest?

Learn about different styles of baseballs and bats at Hear the Crack of the Bat. Discuss pitch and sound vibrations and identify a high and low pitch between the three different sample sounds.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SC1.2: Demonstrate awareness of the physical properties of objects
*CA1.1: Demonstrate creative music expression
*M1.3: Recognition of number relations
*M5.2: Understand measurement through description and comparison
Explore on Your Own

Travel the world as you walk around the Seven Wonders! As you climb, crawl, and walk through the garden, take time to learn about these famous wonders of the world by reading their labels. Do you know anyone who has traveled to visit one of these sites in real life? Discuss how each wonder has a unique design and purpose. Talk about the shapes, lines, and patterns you see in each wonder.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SS3.2: Demonstrate awareness of places and regions
*ELA1.1: Demonstrate ability to engage in conversation
*M4.2: Exhibit ability to identify, describe, analyze, compare, and create shapes
Explore on Your Own

Go on a letter or word hunt! Stand in front of the comic book wall together and observe all the comics. Grown-ups, say a letter or word and ask your child if they can find it. Can they identify the letter sound and think of other words that begin with that letter?

Indiana's Early Learning Foundations:
*ELA2.1: Demonstrate awareness of the alphabet
*ELA2.3: Awareness and understanding of concepts of print
*SE1.1: Demonstrate self-awareness and confidence
Join in on the Fun

Program—Make Your Myth: Art Workshop
Create your own work of art based on a favorite family story.
• See how the ancient Greeks used symbols on pottery
• Explore how symbols are still used today to tell stories
• Work together to design a piece of art that tells a favorite family story

At the produce market, shop the local fruits and veggies. Sort, count, and weigh your produce. Discuss how produce is different and the same in other parts of the world.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*CA4.1: Demonstrate creative expression through dramatic play
*CA3.2: Demonstrate creative expression through visual art production
*M1.1: Demonstrate a strong sense of counting

Explore on Your Own
Visit the floor map found at the entrance of the exhibit. Point out and discuss places your family has traveled. Start by discussing places that are close to home. How did you travel there? Perhaps by bike or car? Use the map to continue the discussion of places you have traveled to that are further away. How did you travel there? By airplane, train, or boat? Board the plane nearby and experience what it would feel like to fly to Greece.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SS3.1: Demonstrate awareness of the world in spatial terms
*SS3.2: Demonstrate awareness of places and regions
*ELA3.2: Ability to engage in conversations
Join in to Take Action

Visit the Take Action Spinners located in each area of the exhibit. Let your child spin the interactive to select one of the “take action” words, Words, Action, Voice, or Education. Discuss with your child this word, its power, and the ways as a family they can take action in their home, neighborhood, or school to make a difference when they see or experience inequality.

Explore on Your Own

Walk around Ruby Bridges’ classroom and make observations. What does Ruby’s classroom have and what might be missing? Discuss that Ruby was in a classroom all by herself with no other students. Discuss how that might have felt to have no classmates and ways you can be an inclusive and respectful friend when you’re at school, a park, or with family.

Explore the flipbook interactive sharing details about Malala Yousafzai and her childhood. Learn where she grew up and the school she attended. Discuss the ways your family may be similar or different from the Yousafzai’s family. Learn, respect, and celebrate different lifestyles in other parts of the world.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SE1.1: Demonstrate self-awareness and confidence
*SE4.1: Demonstrate relationship skills
*ELA1.3: Ability to engage in conversation

The Power of Children: Making a Difference exhibit is made possible by lead gifts from Deborah Simon, Efroymson Family Fund, Chase, National Endowment for the Humanities, Duke Energy Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome P. Martin, U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Cummins Foundation, and The Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. The addition of Malala Yousafzai’s story has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy demands wisdom. It was also made possible in part by the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Corteva Agriscience, Mike and Kristin Sherman, and Lauren Sparkman.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SS1.1: Demonstrate development of self
*SS3.2: Demonstrate awareness of places and regions
*ELA1.3: Ability to engage in conversation
Join in on the Fun
Drive tractors on the farm at the tractor play table located near the back of the exhibit. Children will have fun imagining life on the farm and steering tractors through the fields of crops.

Program—Life in the Pond
See the animals that live in our pond and learn how they support each other in their ecosystem. Watch a live animal feeding.

Explore on Your Own
Tour the Geology Lab with your child and observe a variety of minerals together. Ask your child what colors and shapes they see. Play a game where you ask your child to find a mineral that is shiny, bumpy, smooth, curvy, etc. Expose your child to different vocabulary words describing texture and shape. Once your child spots the mineral, tell them the name of it and how it is used today.

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SS3.3: Awareness of environment and society
*SC3.1: Demonstrate awareness of life
*APL1.2: Demonstrate interest and curiosity as a learner

Indiana’s Early Learning Foundations:
*SC2.1: Recognize the characteristic of earth and sky
*ELA1.1: Demonstrate receptive communication
*M4.2: Ability to identify, describe, analyze, compare, and create shapes