

# IMAGINE NEWS

IMAGINARIUM  
OF SOUTH TEXAS

## FREE FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

Free Family Fun Nights continue to be a big hit at the Imaginarium of South Texas. For the month of March, the Imaginarium had over 600 guest come and enjoyed unlimited explore time in the museum. The guest participated in different activities throughout the night.

TWC Connect a Million Minds provided a STEM fun activity called How to Make a Balloon Rocket. TWC volunteers provided the children with balloons, straws, long pieces of kite string, and sticky tape. The children then created their Balloon Rocket by tying one end of the string to a support element, followed by putting the other end of the string through the straw. Next, the guest pulled the string tight and tied it to another support element. Finally, they blow up the balloon, left untied.

Pinch the end of the balloon and tape the balloon to the straw. The rockets were then ready to launch. Let go and watch the rocket fly. So how does it work? It's all about the air...and thrust. Thrust is when the air rushes out of the balloon, it creates a forward motion, a pushing force created by energy. In the balloon experiment, our thrust comes from the energy of the balloon forcing the air out. Different sizes and shapes of balloons will create more or less thrust. In a real rocket, thrust is created by the force of burning rocket fuel as it blasts from the rockets engine - as the engines blast down, the rocket goes up!

Imaginarium staff provided a hands-on chemistry bubble experiment. Usually when you blow bubbles,

they pop and disappear. Now you can save your bubbles as a cool two-dimensional pattern on a piece of paper by making bubble print paper art. The Imaginarium provide the necessary supplies such as bubble solutions, food coloring, plastic drinking straw, and white drawing paper. The staff prepared the bubble solution with a few drops of food coloring in different plastic containers for the guest to blow bubble through the straw until they spill over the containers. To create the bubble art, guest placed a piece of paper down over the bubbles, lift the paper off and the colored bubbles will create a light design on the paper. Once paper was dry, the children were able to see their art, they created.

Join us for the next Free Family Fun Night will be on April 9, 2015 from 4 p.m.-7 p.m.

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### Special points of interest:

- *Membership*
- *Birthday Parites*
- *Field Trips*
- *Community Outreaches*
- *Daily Programs*
- *Family Science Festivals*
- *Seasonal Camps*
- *Workshops*
- *Volunteer Programs*

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## United Way Workshops

During the 2014-2015 school year, the Imaginarium of South Texas began to implement a series of workshops with both local school districts, United I.S.D and Laredo I.S.D. The workshops are being grant funded by the United Way of Laredo. Both school district chose two schools each to participate in the workshops. The U.W. Workshops are educational lesson plans based on the Tex-

as Essential Knowledge and Skills in order to help prepare the student for their state exam. A total of 200 fifth grade students from Dr. Henry Cuellar Elementary, J. Zaffirini Elementary, Ligarde Elementary and Dovalina Elementary participated in the second of five workshops. Field Trip Specialist, Ms. Ana Gloria Gonzalez, constructed the second workshop on the subject Characteristics

of the Earth, Sun, and Moon. Student interacted with different hands-on activities, models and a music video as a visual ad. The same fifty students from each campus will continue to visit the Imaginarium through the remainder of the school year. Thank You United Way of Laredo for this wonderful privilege to assist the student with an educational workshop.

## Hands-On Nano Scout Days

The Imaginarium of South Texas and the Nanoscale Informal Science Education (N.I.S.E.) presents Hands-On Nano Scout Days.

Hands-On Nano Scout Days is a workshop with local Laredo Girl Scouts that will be learning about Nanotechnology. Nanotechnology is the engineering of functional systems at the molecular scale. The Imaginarium will host a total of six scout days for a total of 100 girls of different Girl Scout levels. Girl scouts will experience what nanotechnology

is through various hands on activities.

Twenty-three Brownies Girl Scouts made their way to the Imaginarium for the



second Hands-On Nano Scout Days workshop. The Brownie Girl Scouts participated in three different hands on activities called Capillary Action, Stain Glass Windows, and Measure Yourself.

After the girls completed their hands on activities, they took advantage of their spare time to explore the museum. Thank You to N.I.S.E. for the great opportunity to allow Laredo Girl Scouts to learn and experience nanotechnology.

## Family Create-it: Cascarones

The Imaginarium of South Texas *Family Create-It's* are events, held once a month, to promote family involvement by spending quality time together creating a finished product to take home. For the Easter holiday, the families gathered together to create festive cascarones. Cascarones are egg shell filled with confetti used to crack over someone's head and shower them with the confetti inside. It might sound strange, but it's actually really fun. Children and adults enjoy running around and smashing eggs on their friends' and family's head.

As the Imaginarium provides all the supplies for the families to paint, design, and fill their egg shells as the guest enjoyed their family quality time.

Be sure to join us for the next Family Create-It: Mother's Day.



## Read Across America

Millions of students nationwide and even around the world picked up a book and set Seuss on the loose for Read Across America Day, a celebration of reading and Dr. Seuss's birthday. At the Imaginarium of South Texas honors Dr. Seuss by hosting a birthday party for member and non-members of the museum. Guest at museum enjoyed the book 'Green Eggs and Ham' followed by a puppet show. Children also created Dr. Seuss inspired crafts such as bookmarks and designing a new hat for Cat in the Hat. The Imaginarium staff also provided an fun photo booth and a promise to read pledge.

The more that you READ, the more things you will KNOW. The more that you learn, the more places you'll GO. ~Dr.Seuss.



### Family Science Festivals

Family Science Festivals brings families together to encourage conversation, communication and the joy of spending time discovering new and interesting concepts. All Family Science Festivals activities are designed to encourage creative problem solving self-learning and fun. At the Imaginarium of South Texas, we believe that every child has the right to science learning tools, the right to access places that celebrate science and a greater family involvement is key to achieve high quality education. By taking Family Science Festival to your school, the Imaginarium staff will provided eight different chemistry and/or engineering activities of choice for a duration of two hours. For more information on Family Science Festivals contact the Imaginarium of South Texas or visit [istx.org](http://istx.org).

