

Calendar of Events

June 2, 2025
- August 8, 2025

Bioinspired Fluid Dynamics Research Experience for Teachers and Students

TBD

Dates to be arranged with Dr Basu.

The Biomedical and Bioinspired Fluid Dynamics Lab (Basu Lab), directed by Dr. Saikat Basu at the Department of Mechanical Engineering at South Dakota State University, is inviting high school teachers and students to participate in their NSF CAREER-funded project. The topic is on respiratory fluid mechanics and how art could be incorporated in biophysics modeling studies. Participants will spend 3 days on SDSU's campus. Teachers will create a learning module based on the experience.

Recruitment asks:

- We are looking for Science teachers (with interest in integrating art with cutting-edge biophysics research) at the high schools in the region, with preference for institutions in the Tribal reservations.?*
- Time commitment: 3-4 days in Summer (specific schedule is flexible, we will pick the mutually best possible week during June/July/Early August)?*
- Please contact Dr. Saikat Basu by March 31, 2025, at: Saikat.Basu@sdstate.edu ?*

What we expect to achieve:?

- The teacher will bring around approximately 3 students to Brookings and work on projects described.?*
- The learning module developed from the camp activities could be shared with the students at the home institution.?*
- We will also develop a poster outlining the experience of the workshop days?*
- The students can present the poster at regional/local science fairs?*

Benefits: ?

- \$1000 stipend for each teacher*
- Reimbursement for other expenses and covered accommodation and meals?*
- Small stipends on the scale of \$100 for each student participant?*
- SDSU certificates for each student participant?*
- Long-term mentorship for the student participants*

To indicate your interest, please email Saikat.Basu@sdstate.edu ?. Include your name and teaching position. OR complete this registration form and your information will be sent to Dr. Basu.

June 2, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Chameleon Tongue Curriculum Development

Summer 2025

Learn about chameleon tongue research being done at USD and write curriculum for middle school life science and high school physics classes.

The Middle School Life Science lesson(s) will focus on MS-LS1 From Molecules to Organisms while the High School Physics lesson(s) will focus on HS-PS1 Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions and HS-PS3 Energy.

These lessons will form the basis of a professional development in 2026.

*Want to know more about Dr. Christopher Anderson? Go to
<http://www.chamaeleonidae.com/research.html>*

\$1000 stipend and credit provided. Sign up today to start a conversation with Dr. Anderson and learn more.

June 2, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

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1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Monday June 2-23

Session Two: every Monday July 7-28

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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- November 30, -0001

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June 3, 2025
- June 5, 2025

2025 Little Explorers Nature Preschool 4-5 Year Old Session
Pierre Native Plant Arboretum and Nature Area
1200 Block Izaak Walton Road
Pierre, SD 57501
08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST
Ages 4-5 Session

Member Price: \$390
Nonmember Price: \$468

Ages 3-4 Session
Member Price: \$205
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Little Explorers Nature Preschool students learn from their environment through guided adventure and build skills with independent hands-on learning. Using Montessori methods, our teachers, with the help of local community guides, develop students' exploration skills and their understanding of STEM concepts.

The ages 4-5 session runs June 3-26, every Tuesday - Thursday from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Dropoff occurs within 15 minutes prior class and pickup within 15 minutes after the end of class.

Parents or guardians are responsible for dressing their student in appropriate clothing for being outside, including close-toed shoes, and applying their student's first round of sunscreen.

Payment plans available, please send inquiries to info@sd-discovery.org.

Class materials are provided by the South Dakota Discovery Center out of program fees and donations. Shelter from inclement weather is made possible through a partnership with the Izaak Walton League and use of the Pierre Native Plant Arboretum and Nature Area is made possible through a partnership with the City of Pierre. Become a supporter today!

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June 4, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday

South Dakota Discovery Center

805 W Sioux Ave

Pierre, So 57501

02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST

Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295

allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

June 5, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades 3-5)

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June 7, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Sea Monsters Dome Movie
TBD

Join us in an immersive, prehistoric adventure!

On Saturday, June 7, ahead of World Oceans Day, we invite you to join us at the public opening of Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure. FREE Exhibit Hall admission sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre.

Sea Monsters is from National Geographic and an amazing opportunity for young people to dive deep into the mysteries of our oceans. Transporting audiences back to the Late Cretaceous, when a great inland sea divided North America, we follow a curious dolichorhynchops as it travels through the most dangerous oceans in history. Along the way we encounter long-necked plesiosaurs, giant turtles, enormous fish, fierce sharks, and the most dangerous sea monster of all, the mosasaur. The film connects paleontology digs and a compelling story about scientists working as detectives to answer questions about this ancient and mysterious ocean world.

This 360 degree full dome movie experience opens to all for booking on June 8, 2025, but is now available to every K-12 school in South Dakota for early showings in our Journey Beyond the Known traveling planetarium dome. Our STEM Educators come to you, or you can book an onsite STEMventure in our exhibit hall!

Sea Monsters is one of the STEMventure Programs offered by the South Dakota Discovery Center. These programs, and our STEMventure Exploration Kits, enhance the classroom or community experience. STEMventures are an important tool for institutions and organizations that need science instruction support and you can find out more about our sponsored discounts (thank you BankWest!) by contacting us at info@sd-discovery.org today.

Thank you Craig DeTample for helping us bring this amazing adventure to South Dakota!

REQUEST THE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

June 9, 2025

- November 30, -0001

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- June 12, 2025

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June 10, 2025

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June 14, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays

South Dakota Discovery Center

805 W Sioux Ave

Pierre, So 57501

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST

Kris Heinen, 6052248295

kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

June 16, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades 3-5)

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June 16, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Suit up for adventure, and rocket away as we explore the sun, moon, planets and many more wonders above our atmosphere! Campers travel to the stars in our Journey Beyond the Known Planetarium and study the behavior of matter through time and space with interactive, hands-on experiments.

8:00am-12:00pm

Session One: every Monday June 2-23

Session Two: every Monday July 7-28

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Campers who receive economic assistance can enter the specific discount code (TANF, WIC, SNAP, DSS) to receive a 50% discount off of their total registration. Enter your code at the bottom of the Contact Information page.

June 17, 2025
- June 19, 2025

2025 Little Explorers Nature Preschool 4-5 Year Old Session
Pierre Native Plant Arboretum and Nature Area
1200 Block Izaak Walton Road
Pierre, SD 57501
08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST
Ages 4-5 Session

Member Price: \$390
Nonmember Price: \$468

Ages 3-4 Session
Member Price: \$205
Nonmember Price: \$257

Our Little Explorers Nature Preschool is South Dakota's first fully outdoor education program based on Montessori principles that children learn best when they are given the freedom to move, to choose their own work, and follow their interests, operating within boundaries that include respect for themselves, others, and the environment.

Little Explorers Nature Preschool students learn from their environment through guided adventure and build skills with independent hands-on learning. Using Montessori methods, our teachers, with the help of local community guides, develop students' exploration skills and their understanding of STEM concepts.

The ages 4-5 session runs June 3-26, every Tuesday - Thursday from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Dropoff occurs within 15 minutes prior class and pickup within 15 minutes after the end of class.

Parents or guardians are responsible for dressing their student in appropriate clothing for being outside, including close-toed shoes, and applying their student's first round of sunscreen.

Payment plans available, please send inquiries to info@sd-discovery.org.

Class materials are provided by the South Dakota Discovery Center out of program fees and donations. Shelter from inclement weather is made possible through a partnership with the Izaak Walton League and use of the Pierre Native Plant Arboretum and Nature Area is made possible through a partnership with the City of Pierre. Become a supporter today!

June 17, 2025
- June 19, 2025

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Pierre Native Plant Arboretum and Nature Area
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Pierre, SD 57501
03:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST
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- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Artificial Intelligence is all the rage, but it begins with simple code instructions to a robot. Campers learn the basics of coding and robotics and ignite their curiosity, building with LEGOs and thinking creatively about how their machines can perform tasks to solve a set of sticky problems.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Tuesday June 3-24

Session Two: every Tuesday July 8-29

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June 17, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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June 19, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades 3-5)

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- November 30, -0001

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08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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June 26, 2025

- November 30, -0001

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July 2, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday

South Dakota Discovery Center

805 W Sioux Ave

Pierre, So 57501

02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST

Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295

allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

July 7, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

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July 8, 2025
- November 30, -0001

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Campers who receive economic assistance can enter the specific discount code (TANF, WIC, SNAP, DSS) to receive a 50% discount off of their total registration. Enter your code at the bottom of the Contact Information page.

July 10, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Movies, photography, painting, do you know the science of color, chemicals, and special effects? Campers get their hands dirty as they walk the line where art and science meet. In the process they find out how artists impact the way scientists communicate with everyday people.

8:00am-12:00pm

Session One: every Thursday June 5-26

Session Two: every Thursday July 10-31

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

Each camp runs once per week for four weeks in June before repeating in July and you can register day-by-day! Each camp day is \$25 for members and \$31.25 for nonmembers. Space is limited and on a first-come-first-serve basis, so register quickly!

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July 12, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays

South Dakota Discovery Center

805 W Sioux Ave

Pierre, So 57501

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST

Kris Heinen, 6052248295

kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

July 14, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Suit up for adventure, and rocket away as we explore the sun, moon, planets and many more wonders above our atmosphere! Campers travel to the stars in our Journey Beyond the Known Planetarium and study the behavior of matter through time and space with interactive, hands-on experiments.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Monday June 2-23

Session Two: every Monday July 7-28

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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July 14, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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8:00am-12:00pm

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July 15, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Artificial Intelligence is all the rage, but it begins with simple code instructions to a robot. Campers learn the basics of coding and robotics and ignite their curiosity, building with LEGOs and thinking creatively about how their machines can perform tasks to solve a set of sticky problems.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Tuesday June 3-24

Session Two: every Tuesday July 8-29

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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July 15, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

AI is all the rage, but it begins with simple code instructions to a robot. Campers learn the basics of coding and robotics and ignite their curiosity, building with LEGOs and thinking creatively about how their machines can perform tasks to solve a set of sticky problems.

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July 17, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Movies, photography, painting, do you know the science of color, chemicals, and special effects? Campers get their hands dirty as they walk the line where art and science meet. In the process they find out how artists impact the way scientists communicate with everyday people.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Thursday June 5-26

Session Two: every Thursday July 10-31

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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July 17, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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July 21, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Suit up for adventure, and rocket away as we explore the sun, moon, planets and many more wonders above our atmosphere! Campers travel to the stars in our Journey Beyond the Known Planetarium and study the behavior of matter through time and space with interactive, hands-on experiments.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Monday June 2-23

Session Two: every Monday July 7-28

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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July 21, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Suit up for adventure, and rocket away as we explore the sun, moon, planets and many more wonders above our atmosphere! Campers travel to the stars in our Journey Beyond the Known Planetarium and study the behavior of matter through time and space with interactive, hands-on experiments.

8:00am-12:00pm

Session One: every Monday June 2-23

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July 22, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Artificial Intelligence is all the rage, but it begins with simple code instructions to a robot. Campers learn the basics of coding and robotics and ignite their curiosity, building with LEGOs and thinking creatively about how their machines can perform tasks to solve a set of sticky problems.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Tuesday June 3-24

Session Two: every Tuesday July 8-29

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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July 22, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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July 24, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Movies, photography, painting, do you know the science of color, chemicals, and special effects? Campers get their hands dirty as they walk the line where art and science meet. In the process they find out how artists impact the way scientists communicate with everyday people.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Thursday June 5-26

Session Two: every Thursday July 10-31

We are excited to offer flexible camp days for the 2025 season! If you have visiting grandchildren or friends, need to watch your expenses, or if you're worried about a vacation taking away from your child's ability to participate in camp, you can pick your days!

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July 24, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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July 28, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Suit up for adventure, and rocket away as we explore the sun, moon, planets and many more wonders above our atmosphere! Campers travel to the stars in our Journey Beyond the Known Planetarium and study the behavior of matter through time and space with interactive, hands-on experiments.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Monday June 2-23

Session Two: every Monday July 7-28

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July 28, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Space Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Suit up for adventure, and rocket away as we explore the sun, moon, planets and many more wonders above our atmosphere! Campers travel to the stars in our Journey Beyond the Known Planetarium and study the behavior of matter through time and space with interactive, hands-on experiments.

8:00am-12:00pm

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July 29, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Artificial Intelligence is all the rage, but it begins with simple code instructions to a robot. Campers learn the basics of coding and robotics and ignite their curiosity, building with LEGOs and thinking creatively about how their machines can perform tasks to solve a set of sticky problems.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Tuesday June 3-24

Session Two: every Tuesday July 8-29

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July 29, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Robotics Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

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July 31, 2025

- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades 3-5)

01:00 PM - 05:00 PM CST

Movies, photography, painting, do you know the science of color, chemicals, and special effects? Campers get their hands dirty as they walk the line where art and science meet. In the process they find out how artists impact the way scientists communicate with everyday people.

1:00pm-5:00pm

Session One: every Thursday June 5-26

Session Two: every Thursday July 10-31

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July 31, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Science + Art Camp (Grades K-2)

08:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Movies, photography, painting, do you know the science of color, chemicals, and special effects? Campers get their hands dirty as they walk the line where art and science meet. In the process they find out how artists impact the way scientists communicate with everyday people.

8:00am-12:00pm

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August 6, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday

South Dakota Discovery Center

805 W Sioux Ave

Pierre, So 57501

02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST

Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295

allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

August 9, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays

South Dakota Discovery Center

805 W Sioux Ave

Pierre, So 57501

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST

Kris Heinen, 6052248295

kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

September 3, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST
Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295
allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

September 13, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST
Kris Heinen, 6052248295
kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

October 1, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST
Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295
allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

October 11, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST
Kris Heinen, 6052248295
kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

November 5, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST
Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295
allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

November 8, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST
Kris Heinen, 6052248295
kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

November 21, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Best for Last 2025
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
05:30 PM - 08:00 PM CST
Best For Last: November 20, 2025
Grow Here, Play Here

Get your ticket to our biggest celebration of hands-on science education!

Every dollar raised supports staff and activities in the SDDC Exhibit Hall, a science playground for ALL to enjoy! Join the generations of children, and adults, who have grown up with greater access to hands-on learning and fun!

The Best for Last reverse raffle takes place on November 20, 2025. You get to enjoy delicious local vittles and chances to win fabulous prizes, including a 1 in 252 chance at \$10,000. Fabulous odds!

GET YOUR TICKET!

December 3, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Rocky Wednesday
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
02:00 PM - 04:00 PM CST
Allison Graviett-Pfaff, 6052248295
allisongraviettpfaff@sd-discovery.org

December 13, 2025
- November 30, -0001

Starry Saturdays
South Dakota Discovery Center
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, So 57501
11:00 AM - 01:00 PM CST
Kris Heinen, 6052248295
kristineheinen@sd-discovery.org

January 1, 2500
- November 30, -0001

General Volunteering Opportunities
805 W Sioux Ave
Pierre, SD 57501
12:00 AM - 01:00 AM CST
Kendra Baucom, 6052248295
kendrabaucom@sd-discovery.org