ESC of Lake Erie West

JANUARY 2025

CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER

Issue 4 Content

Happy New Year from the Challenger Learning Center of Lake Erie West!

We're kicking off 2025 with exciting updates and programs designed to inspire learners of all ages.

Summer Camp Registration is Open!
We're thrilled to announce that summer camp registration is officially live! You can find out more information about camp in the next section of the newsletter.

Winter Series!
This winter, we're launching a Robotics Mini-Series designed to ignite curiosity and teach critical skills in coding, engineering, and teamwork.
Calling all future astronauts! We're also excited to debut a Growing Food in Space series for preschool-age children.

Lastly, December was a BLAST! 🚀 We loved hosting Ottawa Hills 5th graders for their Mission to Mars and partnering with Marshall STEMM for a Virtual Mission to the Moon.

Stay tuned for more updates and register today to start your next adventure!

Heather Townley
Coordinator of Gifted STEM and Personalized Learning

SUMMER CAMP!

June 2-6: Astro Camp

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

"Astro Explorers: Little Hands, Big Dreams!"

Embark on an interstellar journey designed for our youngest space enthusiasts! This camp sparks curiosity with hands-on, age-appropriate STEAM activities inspired by NASA missions. Little explorers will build, create, and imagine their way through the wonders of space, fostering creativity and excitement for science and discovery.

3rd – 4th Grade

"Mission: Adventure Beyond Earth!"

Take a giant leap into the exciting world of space science! This camp invites young adventurers to dive into NASA-inspired STEAM challenges, explore the solar system, and engage in interactive activities that ignite curiosity about space exploration and the technologies of tomorrow.

June 9-13: Robotics and Coding

5th – 6th Grade

"Rescue Robotics: A Mission to Save Lives!"

Gear up for a hands-on adventure where innovation meets real-world problem-solving! In this NASA-inspired camp, participants will take on the role of engineers designing and programming robotic devices to tackle natural disaster scenarios. Using programmable robots, students will navigate challenging mazes, create custom tools, and simulate rescue missions. This camp fosters creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking as campers explore how cutting-edge technology aids first responders. Of course, we will have some fun with battle bots too!

7th – 8th Grade

"Robot Olympics: Engineering for Space Exploration!"

Join the Robot Olympics and take your skills to the next level as we connect robotics to the spirit of exploration at the Challenger Learning Center! In this camp, 7th and 8th graders will design, build, and code VEX IQ robots to compete in Olympic-style events, all inspired by the teamwork and problem-solving required for real space missions. From robot soccer to precision challenges, campers will develop engineering and programming skills while exploring how robotics plays a crucial role in space exploration. Get ready to compete, create, and innovate like a future astronaut!

SUMMER CAMP!

June 23-27: Astro Camp

2nd – 4th Grade

"Mission: Adventure Beyond Earth!"

Take a giant leap into the exciting world of space science! This camp invites young adventurers to dive into NASA-inspired STEAM challenges, explore the solar system, and engage in interactive activities that ignite curiosity about space exploration and the technologies of tomorrow.

5th – 6th Grade

"Space Innovators: Charting the Future!"

Step into the role of a NASA engineer or scientist as you tackle exciting space exploration challenges! This camp for 5th and 6th graders combines hands-on experiments, teamwork, and problem-solving to explore what it takes to live and work in space. Participants will engage with real-world NASA mission concepts, inspiring innovation and a passion for STEM.

Registration

Scan or click the QR Code to register!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPACE?

Credit: NASA.gov: https://science.nasa.gov/solar-system/skywatching/whats-up-january-2025-skywatching-tips-from-nasa/

January Sky Watching Tips from NASA

This video guide will help you look to the skies this month and see FOUR planets...and more!

Final Reminder!

Attention Students: NASA Launches Student Essay Contest

The NASA "Power to Explore" STEM Writing Challenge invites K-12 U.S. students to design a mission powered by Radioisotope Power Systems (RPS) to a moon in the solar system. Students propose a destination, explain the role of RPS in overcoming challenges, and describe their unique contributions to mission success. Entries are due January 31, 2025, and winners could earn exciting opportunities, such as visits to NASA facilities.

Learn more here.

SCHEDULE WITH US!

Virtual or In-Person

In-Person Mission: What to Expect

- Approximate program time: 2.5 hours
- Time spent in both Mission Control and the space craft during the fully immersive simulated mission
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) aligned
- Common Core State Standards (CCSS) aligned

Learn more about our Simulated Missions HERE!

CLICK HERE to schedule a mission or request information!

Virtual Mission: What to Expect

- Approximate program time: 1 hour
- Delivered in real-time by Challenger Learning Center Flight Directors
- Closed captioning available
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) aligned
- Common Core State Standards (CCSS) aligned

Learn more about Virtual Missions HERE!

SCIENCE SNAPSHOT:

K – 4

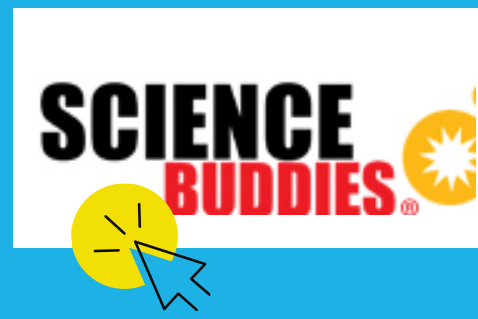
Does color affect taste?

You might have heard the saying "The eyes eat before the mouth." The appearance of food, especially its color, certainly affects how we perceive its taste. But can your eyes actually change the way you taste something? In this science project, you will find out by investigating how people perceive the taste of different colored apple juice. How do you think color affects taste?

5 – 8

How Well Do Different Materials Create Static Electricity?

Why are some materials more susceptible to static cling than others? Investigate how well different materials produce static electricity by making a homemade electroscope and testing it out in this science project.



9 – 12

Can AI Predict Who Survived the Titanic's Sinking?

Given the right data, AI can be good at making predictions. In this project, you will create a KNN machine learning model that tries to predict whether a passenger on the Titanic survived based on multiple factors such as age, sex, and fare price.