



Contact: Natalie Kreiger
219.983.2577
Nataliek@chicagochildrensmuseum.org

For Immediate Release

It's Spring Break at Chicago Children's Museum

Favorite WaterWays exhibit pops with a makeover that proves to be "incredibubble"

CHICAGO, March 20, 2014 – It's spring break, and no matter what the temperature is outside, Chicago Children's Museum is the place where it's okay to get wet, silly, messy and tired. Where else can you build the ultimate fort, step inside a gigantic bubble and launch your own aircraft?

"We're thrilled to offer such a wide array of programs and experiences this spring at Chicago Children's Museum," said CCM president and CEO Jennifer Farrington. "First-time guests as well as long-time members are going to find something new and surprising."

Kids and grown-ups alike will appreciate a fresh take on an old favorite when the *WaterWays* exhibit transforms into *Bubbles*, a full-blown bubble extravaganza that's good clean fun for the whole family. If you liked *WaterWays* before, see what adding thousands of bubbles has done to the museum's most popular exhibit. Kids can create, observe, touch, pop, compare, and otherwise investigate bubbles of all sizes. The latest in a series of "pop-up" exhibits at CCM, *Bubbles* opens April 1.

"Bubbles are such a magical material for children. They're a wonderful way to explore the physical world," said Farrington. "This experience allows children to put several scientific principles to work as they explore the beauty, magic and wonder of bubbles.

Visitors can:

- Envelop themselves inside giant bubbles.
- Make bubbles of all sizes with funky wands.
- Catch hundreds of bubbles floating overhead.
- Scrub dinosaurs in a foamy tub.
- Create bubble hair and beards on mannequin heads.
- Poke hands and arms through magical bubble "walls."

Educational elements include:

- Guests exploring cause-and-effect relationships with bubbles, objects and themselves.
- Making predictions and drawing conclusions as children explore bubbles.
- Using executive function skills to plan experiments and explorations.

- Visitors recalling, reflecting and building on their prior experiences with bubbles.
- Enjoying and integrating a variety of sensory inputs, including the various wet, sticky, and slippery properties of bubbles.

Bubbles runs through April 30. Stay tuned for the next in the series of experiences, when *Circus Zirkus* opens May 2.

Also open:

Air Fair

Through March 31

Hang on to your hats as you experience the wonders of wind power in Air Fair, CCM's month-long festival of air! Propel paper aircraft through vertical wind tunnels. Launch foam rockets at targets high in the sky. Build a tower and knock it down using air cannons of all sizes. Feel the force from our Wall O' Fans—it will blow you away!

Forts

Through April 20

The ever-changing *Forts* exhibit is the perfect place for pretend stakeout areas and secret society meetings. Use couch cushions, upside-down tables, doors, headboards—even stairs that go nowhere—to create a cool and cozy space that's all your own. You can't build these forts at home!

Hours:

Friday-Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Open Friday and Sunday at 9 a.m. for CCM members)

Thursday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Admission:

Children - \$14.00

Adults - \$14.00

Seniors - \$13.00

CCM members - Free

Children under one – Free

Kraft Free Family Night

Thursday evenings, 5 – 8 p.m.

Free admission for everyone

Target Free First Sundays

First Sunday of every month

Free admission all day for ages 15 and under

About Chicago Children's Museum

The mission of Chicago Children's Museum is to improve children's lives by creating a community where play and learning connect. CCM is the only cultural institution in the city dedicated to young children and the important adults in their lives. Playful experiences, including more than 15 interactive exhibits, tap into how kids learn, and engage them at an early age so they develop a lifelong love of learning. Located at Navy Pier, Chicago's number one attraction at 700 E. Grand Ave., CCM is the final stop

for CTA buses #29, #65, #66 and #124. For more information, please visit ChicagoChildrensMuseum.org.

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