



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS, APRIL–JUNE 2010

Featuring new adult and family workshops, field trips and museum experiences

PHILADELPHIA—Have you ever wanted to participate in an insect survey in the N.J. Pine Barrens, collect fish from a local stream or finally organize your family seashell collection? This spring, you can do that and more with scientists and naturalists from the Academy of Natural Sciences as your guide.

The nation's oldest natural history museum is offering a variety of new adult and family workshops, field trips and museum experiences aimed at helping you explore your world and become a better steward of the environment. Two temporary exhibits—one featuring stunning photographs of common animals as well as their live counterparts and another introducing bizarre creatures hidden in the deepest recesses of the oceans—provide fun and learning for adults and children alike.

Here is a schedule of spring programs and exhibits:

Exhibit LOOKING AT ANIMALS March 13–May 16

The snout of a pig, the feet of a poodle, the eye of a komodo dragon. These are among the intriguing, black and white images by noted photographer Henry Horenstein that will be on display in the exhibit *Looking at Animals*. Horenstein's unique style invites viewers to take a close look at animals and see the inherent beauty, oddness and mystery of their unique characteristics. Animal specimens from the Academy's world-renowned research collection will be juxtaposed with the photographs and live animal presentations will take place daily for a full nature experience. Free with museum admission.

ACADEMY EXPLORERS SPRING BREAK CAMP Choose day(s) from Monday, March 29 to Friday, April 9

It's spring break and what to do with the kids? The Academy will host a fun and educational day camp for children ages 5 to 12. Each day includes a teacher-naturalist presentation, exhibit exploration, games, crafts and other fun and educational activities. Each camp runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with optional before and after care. Days may be reserved individually or as part of a longer experience.

Topics and Dates

March 29–April 5: Buggin' Out
March 30–April 6: Dig Those Dinosaurs
March 31–April 7: The Science of Science
April 1–8: Project: Conservation
April 2–9: Exploring the Animal Kingdom

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Fee: \$60 per day; \$55 for each additional day after the first day. Before and after care additional. For more information and to register, call 215 299-1060.

CONSERVING NATIVE POLLINATORS
Saturday, April 10, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

The decline in bee populations worldwide has caused alarm in the environmental and agriculture communities, among others. Dr. Faith Kuehn, an entomologist with the Delaware Department of Agriculture, will lead a hands-on workshop with tips on how to identify native bees, gardening for bees' benefits and more. Make and take home a nest box for native bees. As the plant industries administrator for Delaware DOA, Kuehn has managed a project to survey the native bees in Delaware's vegetable production areas and works with farmers and landowners to implement pollinator conservation practices. \$30, includes museum admission. For details, visit www.ansp.org/adult-programs/index.php. To register, call 215 299-1060.

FAMILY SAFARI OVERNIGHT – SURVIVOR
Friday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.–Saturday, April 17, 9 a.m.

Moms, dads and kids can sleep overnight in the shadow of the Academy's lions, tigers and *T. rex* in this popular Family Safari Overnight. Our experienced naturalists will guide you through interactive activities and you'll get to meet our live animals up close. Children \$40, adults \$35. For details, visit www.ansp.org/activities/safari_overnight.php. To register, call 215-299-1060.

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL
Saturday and Sunday, April 17 and 18, 11 a.m. –4:30 p.m.

Meet Academy environmental scientists and find out how clean your local stream is. Examine the inside of a sediment core and learn how our scientists use cores to monitor pollution and climate change. Chemists, engineers and other scientists from the Patrick Center for Environmental Research will bring their equipment and fish tanks out from their labs and explain how they monitor pollution in the Philadelphia region. Get tips from the pros on how you can be a better steward of the environment. Free with museum admission.

ANIMAL MOMS
Saturday and Sunday, May 8 and 9, 11 a.m. –4:30 p.m.

Celebrate moms of every species as the Academy shows off some of the more nurturing residents of its Live Animal Center, home to more than 100 animals that are injured and can't survive in the wild. Live animal shows at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Make a Mother's Day card for your favorite mom. Free with museum admission.

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INSECT FIELD STUDY
Saturday, May 8, 10 a.m. –4 p.m.

Join Academy entomologist Greg Cowper and invertebrate specialist Karen Verderame on a field study at the Franklin Parker Preserve in the N.J. Pine Barrens, where you will participate in an ongoing insect survey. Learn the role insects play in the ecology of this unique ecosystem, help set up sampling traps and learn the techniques scientists use to collect insects. Meet in Pine Barrens. \$40. For more information and to register, call 215-299-1066.

FAMILY SAFARI OVERNIGHT – SURVIVOR
Friday, May 22, 6:30 p.m.–Saturday, May 23, 9 a.m.

Moms, dads and kids can sleep overnight in the shadow of the Academy's lions, tigers and *T. rex* in this popular Family Safari Overnight. Our experienced naturalists will guide you through interactive activities and you'll get to meet our live animals up close. Children \$40, adults \$35. For details, visit www.ansp.org/activities/safari_overnight.php. To register, call 215-299-1060.

SUN FUN FAMILY WORKSHOP
Saturday, May 22, 10:30 a.m.–noon

The sun is essential for all living things, but too much sun can be harmful. In this hands-on workshop, meet live animals that gather energy from the sun in unique ways, test the sun-blocking power of sunscreen and investigate UV light. \$25 adult-child pair. \$5 each additional adult or child. For more information and to register, call 215-299-1060.

Exhibit
CREATURES OF THE ABYSS
June 5–September 6, 2010

Take a journey to the most inaccessible ecosystem on Earth—the deep ocean. Discover the unearthly creatures and fascinating landscapes of this largely unknown world. Full-scale models, preserved specimens, exploration vehicles, and a bioluminescence theater shed light on the mysteries of the deep sea and the bizarre creatures that live there. Free with museum admission.

CREATURES OF THE ABYSS OPENING WEEKEND
Saturday and Sunday, June 5 and 6, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Be among the first to see the Academy's newest exhibit, *Creatures of the Abyss*. Descend to the deepest, darkest depths of the ocean and discover the mysterious creatures that live there. See some weird and wonderful creatures from the Academy's world-renowned collection and make a creature craft to take home.

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SHELLS: CREATURES AND COLLECTING
Sunday, June 13, 1:30–3 p.m.

Bring your family shell collection to the Academy to receive expert help from the Academy staff on how to identify and organize your treasures from the shore. Learn about the animals that left these beautiful shells behind and meet live shelled creatures. \$25 adult-child pair. \$5 each additional adult or child. For more information and to register, call 215-299-1060.

CATFISH WEEKEND
Saturday and Sunday, June 19 and 20, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Bring dad on a “fishing trip” to the Academy that explores the natural history of one of the most successful species of fish on the planet: the catfish. Meet our fish scientists and participate in interactive presentations and catfish games. Make a fishy craft to take home. Free with museum admission.

ELECTROFISHING FIELD STUDY
Saturday, June 26, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Join Paul Overbeck, a fisheries scientist with the Academy’s Patrick Center for Environmental Research, and help collect fish from a local stream using an electroshocking device. You can participate in the water or on the bank by netting fish, caring for captured fish, recording data, and then releasing the fish back to the water unharmed. Learn about stream ecology and how to identify fish. \$30. For more information and to register, call 215-299-1060.

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The Academy of Natural Sciences, founded in 1812, is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. The mission of the Academy is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences.

HOURS: Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Saturday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. ADMISSION: \$12 adults; \$10 children 3-12, seniors, college students, and military personnel; free for members and children under 3. \$2 fee for Butterflies!