

Connecting Learning and Fun

Find out how your child can meet the learning goals set in the Science Content Standards for California Public Schools at:

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Want To be Amazed?

Science is a source of wonder, excitement, and fascination for all children.

Exploring, experimenting, and thinking about the world around them gives them skills that last a lifetime.

Best of all, science is all around your family at home, in the community, and at school.

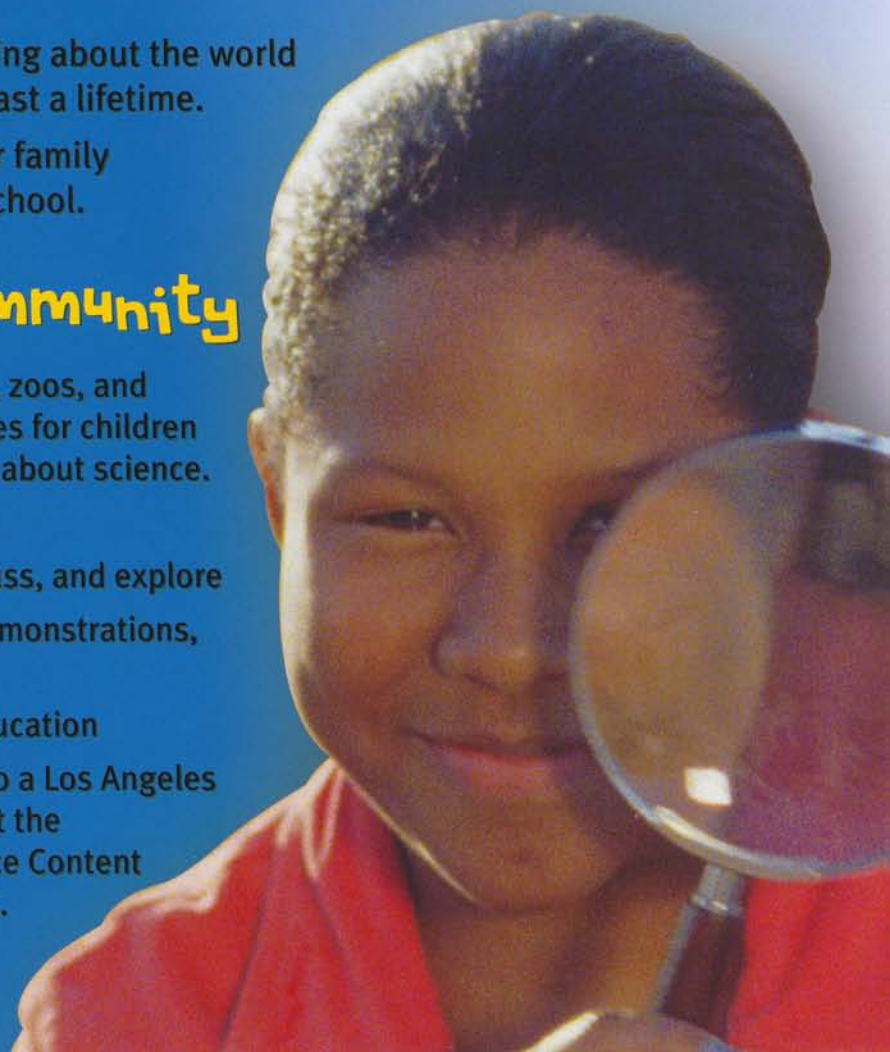
Science in your community

Science and technology centers, parks, zoos, and museums are unique and exciting places for children to learn and develop positive attitudes about science.

They offer:

- Opportunities to ask questions, discuss, and explore
- Neat exhibits, hands-on activities, demonstrations, workshops, and films
- Learning that supports classroom education

Find out some of the ways that a visit to a Los Angeles science center can help your child meet the science learning goals set in the Science Content Standards for California Public Schools.



A project of the Partnership for Science Literacy, an initiative of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, with funding from the National Science Foundation, to promote K-12 science literacy for everyone.

Visit us at: www.ScienceEverywhere.org



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Science classes are taught in every school in California, but science discovery can take place anywhere! Museums provide a wonderful, interactive way to learn about our world and how it works. Here are some examples from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Phone: (213) 763-DINO (3466) Online: www.nhm.org

THE AFRICAN MAMMAL HALL

Where can you stand two feet away from a buffalo, elephant, or kudu? The African Mammal Hall! Here, children can identify familiar animals such as giraffes, hippos, and lions, and discover creatures they may have never seen before, from a bongo to an oryx!

Questions you can ask your child include:

For kindergarteners:

- How do you know this is a lion?
- How can you tell this is a giraffe?

For second graders:

- How do the parents and babies look alike?
- Is there anything about the babies that is different from their parents?

This exhibit demonstrates California Life Sciences Standard 2c for kindergarteners: "Kindergarteners know how to identify major structures of common animals"; and Life Sciences Standard 2a for second graders: "Second graders know that organisms reproduce offspring of their own kind and that the offspring resemble their parents and one another."

THE MARINE HALL

Take a deep-sea dive in the Marine Hall! Here, you can explore six different areas of our world's oceans, from marshy estuaries to the deepest depths of the ocean's abyss. Look in the Coral Reef diorama and study the different environments.

Questions you can ask your child include:

For first graders:

- Do you see any animals looking for shelter?
- Look for the animals that resemble Clown Fish— They are called Zebra Gobies! Do you know where they like to hide? (Clown Fish and their relatives hide in anemones – like in the movie *Finding Nemo!* Anemones look like plants, but they are actually animals – they even eat meat!) Can you see any anemones in the coral reef?

For third graders:

- What types of animals do you see? How have these animals adapted to their homes?
- A good example of adaptation is the Wharf Piling diorama. Where did this big "tree" come from? (Humans put it there – it supports a pier or dock!) What animals live on this wharf piling? What animals come by to visit and eat?

This exhibit demonstrates California Life Sciences Standard 2c for first graders: "Students know animals eat plants and other animals for food and may also use plants or even other animals for shelter and nesting"; and for third graders: "Third Graders know examples of diverse life forms in different environments, such as oceans...and wetlands."

About the California State Standards: In California, the **Science Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve** represents the content of science education and includes the essential skills and knowledge students will need to be scientifically literate citizens in the twenty-first century.

FIND OUT MORE about the Science Content Standards at: www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/scmain.asp

Talk to your children's science teachers. See the "10 Questions to Ask Your Child's School" at: www.ScienceEverywhere.org