Tips for Visiting with Early Learners

Let your little scientist set the pace! Young children need some time to get settled in each new environment. You can have just as much fun, and will probably learn more, doing one activity for an hour than you would doing 15 activities for 5 minutes each.

Bring a change of clothes and walking shoes. There are some messy hands-on activities and many kids don’t like to wear their winter boots indoors. For health and safety reasons, shirts, shoes, and pants are required for all visitors at all times.

There are two restrooms within a 30 second walk of the Discovery Center. Ask a staff person to direct you to the nearest facility. There is a family restroom near the Hall of Human Life (Green Wing, Level 2). A private restroom is also available inside the first aid room (ask for access at the Information Desk in the Main Lobby).

Changing diapers is strictly prohibited in the Discovery Center and in the main Exhibit Hall. All restrooms are equipped with changing tables. In some restrooms, these are located inside the wheelchair accessible stalls.

Food and drinks are not allowed inside the Discovery Center or Exhibit Halls. The tables and chairs just outside the Discovery Center are a great place for a quick snack.

Nursing mothers may breastfeed wherever they feel comfortable. For extra privacy, the first aid room is available (ask for access at the Information Desk in the Main Lobby).

Strollers are restricted in some areas of the museum, including the Discovery Center. Ask a staff person near these areas where to park your stroller. There are elevators throughout the museum to help you navigate with your stroller.

Print out the Early Learner’s Guide to the Museum of Science or ask at the Discovery Center for our recommendations for children ages 0 – 8. Please note that the Discovery Center opens later, and closes earlier, than other exhibits.