

Science, Naturally!

Bringing Science Education to You

At Science, Naturally!, our tagline is *Bridging the Gap Between the Blackboard and the Blacktop*. Our niche is in inspiring kids to *want* to learn more about math and science and making these topics fun for the whole family. Our mission is to help kids make connections in math and science in ways where they get to that “Ah ha!” moment. We hope to help kids see how the curriculum they’ve been tasked to learn applies in the world in which their lives unfold. We write books, we sell eBooks, we create Apps... and we go into the community to connect with children, to work with families and to excite professionals.

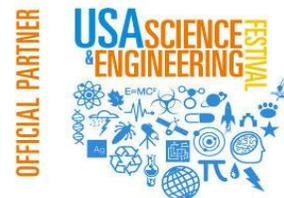


Promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Education

We present a number of entertaining and educational programs that can be presented either as seminars or as hands-on workshops. We have activities for kids of all ages and, when doing presentations, always invite kids on stage for extra fun and excitement.



Snugglepup, our lovable 5-foot platypus, has been spotted from San Diego to New York City inspiring kids to ask questions about mammals and learn about the animals with whom we share our planet.



Family Science Presentations

- American Association for the Advancement of Science Family Science Days
- World Science Festival
- USA Science & Engineering Festival
- Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History
- Museum of Science, Boston, MA
- Los Angeles Zoo
- Prince George's County (MD) Schools STEM Fair

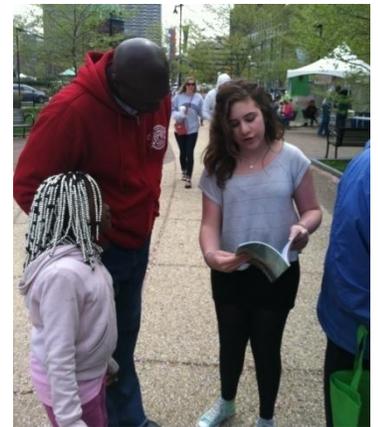


Professional Science Presentations

- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- National Association of Biology Teachers
- American College of Nurse Midwives

Promoting Literacy in the Community

Studies have found a direct correlation between early literacy and high school graduation rates and future economic success. The discipline, comprehension, and writing skills that children develop from reading prepares them for a variety of challenges. Moreover, researchers have found links between illiteracy and criminal activity. Many states, such as Indiana and California, use the number of children who are not reading at the proper second or third grade level to predict the number of new prison cells that need to be built.



Working in the Schools

For years, we have worked with [Turning the Page](#), a Washington, DC literacy program that inspires children to read while working with their parents to promote reading in the home.

We have also presented programs at schools across the country, from preschools in Los Angeles, California to school assemblies in Chautauqua, New York.





Bridging the gap between
the blackboard and the blacktop

Some of our programs include:

The Science Sleuth Station

This stage show explores some of the mysteries from the award-winning *One Minute Mysteries* series and *101 Things Everyone Should Know* series. When audience participation and kid-centric science are combined, explosive fun is the solution! There is science all around us and kids will learn just how interesting some everyday items are. Making science exciting and educational for everyone in the room will show kids that what they learn in school is actually interesting!

Name That Mammal!

Some questions are easy: What is a baby kangaroo called? A group of what mammal is called a *pride*? What mammal has the genus and species name –*Homo sapiens*? But some questions aren't as easy: What mammal has the longest migration? What is the primary food of the giant panda bear? Which of the following animals is not a dog – Dingo, Prairie Dog, Dachshund? Some questions aren't easy at all: What mammal has the slowest metabolism? Why do koala bears smell like cough drops? From what mammalian milk is genuine mozzarella cheese made? Whether the questions are easy or hard, trying to answer them is always fun ...when you're playing *Name That Mammal!!* Join us for a fun and educational family event playing *Name That Mammal!!* Have a great time while you learn about the world of mammals and find out about the diversity of how mammals eat, sleep, and learn from birth to maturity. The questions get harder as the competition heats up – and prizes are awarded to all players.

If Your Mom Were a Platypus: What would your life be like?

A colorful, hands-on workshop about mammals families for human families. Children's science writer Dia L. Michels shares insights about the behaviors and characteristics of young mammals from her book, *If My Mom Were a Platypus: Animal Babies and Their Mothers*. Using a combination of examples, illustrations and activities, Michels explores how different mammals reproduce, survive and learn. Sharing life cycle stories from animals as varied as platypuses, koalas, whales, elephants, bats and shrews, this workshop helps children understand similarities and differences between mammals. Children will do hands-on activities and games to demonstrate different topics and take home arts & crafts that teach survival skills. Themes including adaptations, anatomy, habitats, reproduction, health, and classification will be included. Each children will receive an autographed copy of *If My Mom Were a Platypus* to take home as part of this workshop.

Sharing the World with my Animal Friends

In this hands-on workshop, children will explore the world of animals in their everyday lives. Focusing on animals that kids see at a petting zoo, nature center, aquarium -- or in their own backyard -- they will learn about how they are born, learn and survive. Dia L. Michels, a popular lecturer and science writer, uses her acclaimed children's book *Look What I See! Where Can I Be? With My Animal Friends* as a launching pad for children to further their understanding of the animals around them. Hands-on activities and demonstrations include making an edible butterfly while learning about its anatomy, tasting goat's milk and comparing it to cow's milk, measuring

a child's height in hands (just like a horse), understanding camouflage, and learning how dolphins adjust the air in their lungs to maneuver through the water. Each child will create their own touch-and-feel "Look What I See! Animals" book. All participants will receive an autographed copy of Michel's *Look What I See! Where Can I Be? With My Animals Friends* to take home.

Animal Families: How families are the same? How families are different?

Humans are social creatures who raise their children in family units. The Golden Lion Tamarin monkeys are, too. The male in the Dingo family sees to it that the pup is prepared for the real world, just as a human dad might. On the other hand, a polar bear cub never knows who her father is, and a mother lion will nurse any cub that suckles on her. Come to this family session to see how your family is similar to many wild animal families – and how it is different. Craft projects and hands-on activities will help demonstrate many of the topics and give kids a souvenir to take home.

Look What I See! Where Can I Be?

Gather round for story time fun as we share the adventures and explorations of Baby in the delightful series, *Look What I See! Where Can I Be?* Listen to the story, guess where the Baby is, find the hidden objects, and marvel at all the different ways babies are carried in these innovative, beautifully photographed concept books that delight small children as much as they entertain their parents. Author Dia Michels leads kids through the explorations of the world as Baby discovers her home and community, secure in the embrace of those who love her. Fun for the whole family!

Exploring China and Chinese New Year

Young children will welcome "the year of the monkey" in a hands-on workshop that uses science, arts and crafts, and math activities to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Children's author Dia L. Michels will read from her just published *Look What I See! Where Can I Be? Visiting China*. Then, through demonstrations and hands-on activities, children will be introduced to several Chinese New Year traditions including the giving of red Lai-See envelopes in which children receive good luck money; the lantern festival; fireworks; and dragon dances. Projects include dyeing paper red and then folding it into an envelope, making colorful paper lanterns, creating a fireworks painting, and making dragon shadow puppets. Michels will also tell stories of the monkey king, one of the most popular characters in Chinese opera. In honor of the year of the monkey, children will create their own monkey masks to take home. All participants will receive an autographed copy of *Look What I See! Where Can I Be? Visiting China* to take home.

A Celebration of Brothers – and Sisters, too!

How can parents help an older child adjust to the new baby? What is it like for the older sibling when a new baby arrives on the scene? Listen and watch as child authors, Zaydek and Akaela Michels-Gualtieri, read books they have written. *I Was Born to be a Brother* by Zaydek Michels-Gualtieri and *I Was Born to be a Sister* by Akaela Michels-Gualtieri. Each book chronicles the older sibling's journey through the joys and exasperations of adapting to a younger sibling. Then warm up your vocal cords as we learn the words to the original songs *I Was Born to be a Brother* and *I Was Born to be a Sister*. Finally, join in on a lively discussion about birth order.

Using Children's Literature to Nourish Sibling Relationships

No home is complete without a collection of treasured children's books. Reading together is a cornerstone of family life. But families committed to closeness don't want to read just any book to the kids at bedtime. This workshop concentrates on the titles that attachment parents want --- books that model the behaviors they value and promote healthy relationships. Find out about books that portray siblings who get along, learn how to resolve conflicts, overcome challenges, and use their family experiences to grow and mature. The elements of book selection introduced in this workshop are useful not only for the home library and for new families who want to learn about attachment parenting, but also for La Leche League libraries serving health professionals.

Multiple Learning Experiences from Simple Stories

Creative ways to make picture books and simple stories come alive for children. This workshop will include a hands-on demonstration of activities, crafts, games and songs based on the themes of a story. In *Zack in the Middle*, for example, children begin to understand the concept of "middle" - from numbers to children in a family to all the good things that come in the middle (like the cream in a sandwich cookie). Participants will have a chance to try some of the activities, take home samples and guides, and brainstorm ideas for actively meeting curriculum objectives through children's literature.

Raising a Creative, Imaginative, Inventive Child

The latest pitch for infant formula claims you can give your child the mind of a scientist. Any breastfeeding mother knows there are better ways to build literacy and encourage your child's natural creative thought processes than by feeding infant formula. This session provides ideas and activities to inspire and intrigue your children. Learn ways to foster confidence, ambition, and energy from two authors of children's books who present creativity exercises for every age. Nothing more is required than a desire to spend time with your child. We will show you how to incorporate science into mealtimes, how to add inventiveness to playtime, and how to inject creativity and literacy into each day. A perfect session for learning how to maximize fun and the education.

Creating Books for Children:

How to Write, Illustrate and Create a Book for Your Family

You don't need to be a published author to create books. In fact, creating books about your family is a wonderful way to build your child's literacy, imagination, and feeling of family pride and belonging. In this session, successful children's book authors will show numerous ways to create a unique book for and about your family. Book projects not only involve your child in writing, editing, illustrating, and putting together a special story, but they also give you a book to cherish for a lifetime. Learn how to create a family book that honors your traditions and creates family pride for the future. Whether you chose to capture family memories, tell favorite family stories, or showcase family photographs or artwork, a homemade book is a wonderful way to capture the warmth and rituals of your own family -- for very little money. This is a good project for home-schooling parents, too.