Sciencenter offers special programs for families this fall

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Fall is here and the Sciencenter has a full line-up of exciting activities and events indoors and out that the whole family — including your holiday guests — will enjoy.

Experience science in action at our family-friendly, interactive Showtime! presentations every Saturday at 2 p.m. This Saturday, make your own lava in a bottle while discovering the excitement of chemistry with the Cornell Undergraduate Research Board. On Nov. 26, investigate life under the sea with students from Cornell's Naturalist Outreach class. And then stop by the Tidemop Touch Tank for a hands-on tour of our ocean animals including horseshoe crabs, sea stars, urchins and more.

The Sciencenter hosts Sensory Hours from 10 a.m. to noon Sunday for parents and children with special sensory needs to play and explore in a sensory-friendly environment. During these hours, the Sciencenter will provide dedicated dim and quiet spaces, offer noise-canceling headphones, and post signage to designate noisy or bright areas throughout. Sensory Story orientation guides and picture schedules of the museum are available for download on the Sciencenter's website at www.sciencenter.org/plan-your-visit. Admission to Sensory Hours is “pay what you wish.”

Calling all makers and budding engineers: Become an inventor at Moto-Inventions every Sunday at 1 p.m. Tinker with recycled materials provided by Cornell XRaise, then add a little spark of electricity and create your own moving contraption.

Looking for science fun that you can enjoy with your little ones? Join us Tuesday through Friday for Science Together. Engage with your toddlers and preschoolers as you investigate scientific principles through hands-on activities, stories, and silly songs. Make observations, predict what will happen, and learn to explore new ideas just like a scientist at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and at 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

If you're in need of a turkey break, the Sciencenter is open on Nov. 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Play a round of Sciencenter mini-golf or jump, climb, and swing through the Science Playground — both are open through Nov. 30, weather permitting. While you're here, take advantage of our annual Sciencenter Store Sale. Store purchases are 10 percent off for all and 20 percent off for Sciencenter members through Dec. 31. (Museum admission is not needed to shop the store.)

Don't miss out on any of this spectacular science fun — visit our website, www.sciencenter.org, for a complete calendar listing of these events and more. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube for exclusive photos, videos and news.

Learn more about Sciencenter programs, plan your next visit, or purchase a gift membership at www.sciencenter.org, call 607-272-0600 or visit our front desk. Sciencenter hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is $8 for adults, $7 for seniors, $6 for children 2-17 years, and free to members and children under 2.

The Sciencenter is a proud member of the Discovery Trail.

Gaulke is the public and media relations manager at Sciencenter.