

# TRUASSIC TIMES

Akron Fossils and Science Center's Quarterly Newsletter



## Fabulous Fall

By Erin Corbett

Another brisk and blustery Autumn has come to AFSC, and all the traditional fanfare with it! Every September, we have the distinct honor of welcoming new and returning families to our Simply programs; our little Center brims with curiosity, discovery, and the excitement of blossoming friendships.

We're preparing for our last quarter of Super Science Saturdays as well as the last installment of our Creation Speaks series, and we've closed the Zipline until next Spring. Swarms of children waiting their turn for a refreshing drink from the water cooler after recess have relocated to queue at the coat & hat racks, and the last of the colorful drifting leaves will soon be replaced by the first snow flurries of the season.

In the offices, we're cooking up some exciting new fundraising opportunities and finalizing our Summer Camp, Simply Programs, and Super Science Saturday schedules for 2024, so keep an eye on your inboxes!

At the end of this month, we will pause to give thanks for all the ways we are blessed to be part of Akron Fossils, and before we know it we'll be breaking for the winter holidays and welcoming a new year. We'll carry tried-and-true traditions with us while experimenting with new techniques in our commitment to quality, hands-on education. We will continue to welcome new friends and members to our AFSC family and reminisce about all the precious families we've met here over the last eighteen years- and in the midst of this dreary season, even as we brace ourselves for another frigid Ohio Winter, we're reminded of the beauty and renewal change can bring.

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By Bill Sanderson

This year seems to be flying by at the speed of light. Since our last newsletter, we finished up a full summer of camps, field trips, and group field trips. It was also one of the busiest summers, considering the number of smaller groups and families that also visited the museum. Our summer camps were all at full capacity. We offered a variety of events to keep science enthusiasts engaged, such as birthday parties, Super Science Saturdays, and the newly launched Lecture Series.

We had another successful canoe trip, enjoying the pristine wilderness of the Minnesota-Canadian Boundary Waters. Jodie and two of her children joined us for this special and marvelous experience. We will be unfolding a broader offering of this adventure next year as we strive to have a beginner experience, along with our regular advanced trip. Bill Heidinger has offered to oversee this program, and he and I are in the planning stages of developing the specific

plans for next year. Keep a look-out for more information on this exciting new adventure. Following the summer craziness are the two fundraisers that occur back-to-back. The Annual Golf outing was held again at Pine Valley Golf Club in Wadsworth. The Brennan team prevailed once again, however edged out the Koram team by only one stroke. LPGA pro Barb Mucha hosted again, and no one could best her shots on the "Beat the Pro" par three. Following the Golf Outing, AFSC hosted our online Silent Auction fundraiser, followed by a Carnival Day at the Museum. Lots of people came to pick up the wonderful items they won during the auction, and enjoyed a day of games. refreshments, and activities inside and outside the Center. I should also mention that in between these events, we started our lineup of classes for the school year, which added a great deal more activity to our schedule. Classes are underway and will continue until December, resuming the second semester in January. We are so pleased to offer these classes to those seeking a wholesome learning environment in the homeschool community.

We continue to be debt free, operating the Museum with great care financially. It is difficult, as the cost of everything continues to increase. Keep us in your prayers - that God will continue to bless our efforts and our mission. Remember us financially should you be so inclined, and if we have brought value to you and your family, remember us in your year-end giving.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year.

## THE CREATION CONNECTION

The Creation Education Museum is happy to announce a partnership with the Hametown Baptist Church and Christian School. Through this collaboration, we can expand our audience and host events to reach more people; Revealing the amazing discoveries of Creation and the worldwide impact of the book of Genesis.

Join us for the last speaker series of the year, being hosted at this location. Dr. Anthony Silvestro will be speaking on a very timely topic, showing the dangers of straying from the Biblical truth of Genesis, and how it affects our culture at large. The topic is "The Genesis of Worldliness" and will be an eye-opening lecture on the consequences of trading the truth of God's Word in favor of mankind's own ideals. You won't want to miss this talk on December 1st.

Visit the Creation Education Museum website at www.creationeducationmuseum.org for more information.

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## Kid's Corner



## **Meet Toby**

Toby is a chinchilla. Did you know chinchillas can jump up to six feet?! They are very agile and athletic rodents that like to climb, jump, and chew. Chinchillas are extremely social and have a wide vocal range. They are most active at dawn and dusk. Chinchillas are known for their soft and plush fur, and Toby is no exception. Toby is fast, friendly and fluffy and loves a good snack. For \$5/month, you can sponsor Toby or any of our other animal friends.

Learn more about sponsoring this animal by visiting our website at: www.akronfossils.org/animal-sponsorship

### **Super Science Saturday**



November 18th - Rock Stars December 16th - Exciting Evergreens

Join us for our last two Super Science Saturdays of the year! We fill each SSS with outstanding hands-on learning opportunities centered around that month's topic. If you want a great inexpensive day of learning and fun, this is definitely it!

Visit www.akronfossils.org/super-science-saturday to learn more and to register.

#### **WORD SEARCH - FALL FUN**

N R N A H W B F Q G S
O Y F P J E T P H C S
V N V P N P I A A N B
E I O L T A R R M H U
M K T E L V E U F W L
B P K S E C T A B G E
E M O S R U L P S X A
R U T O A L P O K J V
J P W A W M V G S V E
F M T V T Y Q D C E S
Y N Z Q P N E P G A R

FALL PUMPKIN APPLES HARVEST NOVEMBER LEAVES AUTUMN SCARECROW

#### **DIY Science Experiment - Rock Candy**

**Materials:** 3 Cups Sugar, 1 Cup Water, 1 Wooden Skewer, 1 Clothespin, 1 Clean Jar, Food Coloring (optional), Flavor Oil (optional), Pan, Stove

**Instructions:** Heat water to a boil. Add sugar, one cup at a time, stirring continuously. Completely dissolve sugar. Cool solution for 15/20 minutes. Pour in the solution. Add optional food coloring and flavor oil. Prepare jar by securing the clothespin to the skewer and hanging it over the jar (see below). Wait 3-7 days. Enjoy.

**The Science:** Crystals form when molecules arrange themselves in a uniform and repetitive pattern. The saturated sugar solution creates the perfect environment for this to happen. The sugar particles continuously bump into each other and start to stick together. These clumps of particles begin to attract more and more to join them. This is how the crystals grow!



For more tips or to download a PDF visit www.akronfossils.org/downloads

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## **Funder Spotlight**

Our 2023 Silent Auction and Carnival was a huge success, and it's all because of you! We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who participated in the auction, donated to or sponsored our event, volunteered their time, and came out to the family carnival. We greatly appreciate your involvement and your support had a significant impact on the success of our event. This year, with the help of your generous contribution, we raised over \$11,000 for Akron Fossils and Science Center. Proceeds raised will allow us to continue our mission of providing quality, balanced, affordable and hands-on science educational opportunities to those in Summit County and surrounding communities.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of those we serve.

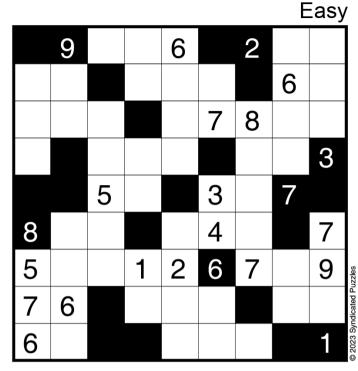


#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

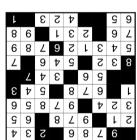
- 18 November: SSS Rock Stars
- 20 November: Simply Fall Break Starts
- 25 November: AFSC Closed
- 1 December: Speaker Series
- 16 December: SSS Evergreens
- 18 December: Simply Winter Break Starts
- 23/30 December: AFSC Closed

#### Puzzle

#### STR8TS



Like Sudoku, no single number 1 to 9 can repeat in any row or column. But, rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. Each compartment must form a **straight** - a set of numbers with no gaps, but it can be in any order (eg 7,6,9,8). Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to the right for help.



#### **REMINDER**



AFSC participates in the ACME
Community Cash
Back Program.
Save your ACME
receipts dated
August 1st, 2023 February 15th, 2024
to help us raise
money. Bring them
into the center for
collection.