

# TRUASSIC TIMES

Akron Fossils and Science Center's Quarterly Newsletter



## Welcome Spring

By Angela Powers

The days are getting longer, green buds are poking through the ground, daffodils are blossoming, and the spring peepers are singing their chorus. The first signs of spring are popping up all around us. For many, the new year acts as a fresh start. For me, springtime has always brought out a desire for change and new beginnings. New beginnings are exciting, much like spring, blooming with life, possibility and potential. Before I was Akron Fossils and Science Center's Development Coordinator, I was first a member, then supporter, donor, and parent to Simply students, who later became volunteers and employees themselves. To say that AFSC cultivates community is an understatement. Many of our previous camp participants and Simply program students go on to volunteer and/or work for the center. Our Super Science Saturday's bring in familiar faces each month because kids love coming back again and again and parents know their children are safe, cared for, and engaged in fun, educational activities. I am honored to be a part of the Akron Fossils and Science Center family and look forward to getting to know all of you, our beloved supporters and friends!

As the earth begins to wake up from it's sleepy winter slumber, Akron Fossils and Science Center is getting ready for our busy season. Our 2022-2023 Simply programs are winding down for the year, but registration is already open for the 2023-2024 school year, with most classes filling up quickly. Summer Camp registration is open as well, with our first week of camps starting June 12th. Explore the following pages to hear the latest updates and for all the fun, hands-on, educational events and programming we have in store for you this spring. We look forward to seeing you around! IN THIS ISSUE

#### WELCOME SPRING

#### FOUNDER'S FODDER

THE CREATION CONNECTION

**KID'S CORNER** 

#### FUNDER SPOTLIGHT

**UPCOMING EVENTS** 



## Founder's Fodder

#### By Bill Sanderson

It is always a pleasure to communicate via the newsletter about the state of things at Akron Fossils. Because of the recent staffing changes, it has taken us a while to resume the Truassic Times. However, with Angela Powers now on board, we intend to be consistent with the publication from now on. Our goal with the "Times" is to provide information on upcoming events, important calendar dates, and other items of interest to eliminate the mass emails currently being used for everything we wish to communicate.

Last year was our most productive and successful year, both from a financial and programming standpoint. 2022 exceeded all previous years in terms of total revenue by a large margin, and featured capacity participation in Simply Science, Camps, and group field trips. This enabled us to address some building and structural issues without having to go into any short-term debt. We remain debt free as an organization, and continue to plan for larger expenses from our fundraising efforts. Currently, we have 3 primary fundraising functions. The Gala, which is coming up on April 27th, the Golf Outing, scheduled for September 9th, and the annual Silent Auction, which will be this fall. The website as always, will have details for these events, and we encourage your participation where it may fit for you.

Last year also saw the resuming of the Canoe Trip to the Boundary Waters in Minnesota. We took two groups, which was a first for us. Both came off flawlessly, with each group creating their own stories to take home to cherish and share. This year's canoe trip is scheduled in early July. If you are interested in joining us, please let us know. We are partnering with Mohican Sailing Club to offer sailing camps this year, and plan to partner with Canoe Creation to restart the repelling experience and other adventures. We have found that by partnering with other great vendors, we can broaded our areas of interest and connect with other communities that already have the staff and experience in place.

The Creation Education Museum has self guided devices with a newly recorded tour, and has continued to upgrade many of the displays. We also have scheduled some outstanding presenters for the Speaker Series, which in the past has generated tremendous interest. Please join us as they are of really top quality.

Thank you for your continued support as we truly commit to a safe, family-friendly environment, where truth stands up under scrutiny.

## THE CREATION CONNECTION

Akron Fossils and Science Center's own Creation Education Museum revamped in 2016, and is continually being updated with new exhibits to introduce guests to the Biblical Creation worldview. Explore how fossils are rapidly buried, discover the amazing historicity of the Bible, and examine the days of creation with in depth video presentations. Engage with our newly created audio tour to take you through all twenty-five exhibits. Check out our augmented reality sandbox showing how canyons form through catastrophe! See the importance of understanding how the Bible laid out the history of our planet well before modern science caught up. We also have our quarterly Creation Speaks: Speaker Series, where we seek to answer Creation Science's most relevant questions. We will hold our next speaker event on July 21st, 2023, featuring Nate Loper. Visit the Creation Education Museum website for more information. We invite you to explore the evidence and make your own decision about what it is teaching you. You decide!

#### PAGE 3

## Kid's Corner



## **Meet Franklin**

Franklin is a Netherland Dwarf Rabbit. As one of the smallest breeds of rabbits, Franklin clocks in at just under 3 pounds. Franklin is 7 years old, but because these rabbits are bred to have a large head and enormous eyes, short ears, and a compact body, he has the permanent appearance of a kit, or baby rabbit. Franklin is sweet and energetic and we love having him as a part of the AFSC family! For \$5/month, you can sponsor Franklin or any of our other animal friends.

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

### **Upcoming Classes and Camps**

Sign ups have already begun for our Summer 2023 camps and classes. Visit our website for more info.

Dinosaur Adventure Camp - June 12-16, 2023 Wacky Science Camp - June 19-23, 2023 Space Exploration Camp - June 26-30, 2023 Creature Feature Camp - July 10-14, 2023 Crime Scene Investigation Camp - July 17-21, 2023 STEAM Camp - July 24-28, 2023 Learn to Sail Class - June 5 and 12th, 2023

Our 2023-2024 Simply Science, Simply Studies, and Simply STEAM classes are open for registration. Visit us online or stop by in person to check out our classes and register your students for next year. We are excited to be offering even more this coming year.

#### **DIY Science Experiment - Floating Ink**

**Materials:** Dry Erase Markers, Pitcher of Water, Non-Porous Surface with Edges (like a glass or ceramic coated plate)

**Instructions:** Using the dry erase markers, draw pictures on the smooth surface of your dish. Let it dry for a few seconds. Slowly pour water on the edge of the dish and watch the shapes slowly lift from the surface.

**The Science:** Dry erase markers are insoluble. That means that they can not be dissolved in water. Dry erase markers also contain a special polymer that prevents them from sticking to smooth, non-porous surfaces. Because the ink is less dense than the water, it pulls away from the surface and floats.

### SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

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#### BEAKER DATA GOGGLES HYPOTHESIS LAB MEASURE MICROSCOPE PIPETTE SCIENTIST STEAM



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

## **Funder Spotlight**

Akron Fossils and Science Center is beyond grateful to the Akron Community Foundation for recently awarding us a grant to support our Science Adventure Club. Are you familiar with Akron Fossils and Science Center's Science Adventure Club? Science Adventure Club is a five-week after-school program that meets once a week at local elementary schools to explore a STEM subject with participating students. The program features interactive lessons, hands-on learning activities and experiments, crafts and a snack. Thank you, Akron Community Foundation, for partnering with us to help make our programming the best it can be!

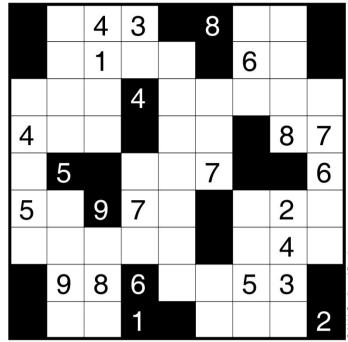


#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 15 April: SSS Spectacular Snakes
- 27 April: Annual Gala Fundraiser
- 12 May: Simply Programs EOY Potluck
- 20 May: SSS Mammal Mayhem
- 30 May: AFSC is Open to the Public
- 12 June: Summer Camps Start
- 17 June: SSS Beautiful Bugs

## Puzzle

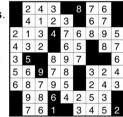
#### STR8TS



#### How to beat 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 see how 'straights' are formed.



#### REMINDERS



Don't forget to scan your receipts to earn cash for AFSC's Simply programs. If you haven't done so already, download the Box Tops for Education app.

Scan the QR code to download the app now. Once downloaded, search "Akron Fossils" to start earning.



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