WHAT IS INQUIRY LEARNING?

Inquiry is discovery and exploration, aiming to uncover the truth of a problem or question. Inquiry provides a method for people of all ages to learn, construct their own ideas, and test these ideas. Inquiry is an active process of data collection and analysis, description and prediction, and making connections among various contexts. The process of science is inquiry-driven and inquiry-based.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Experience COSI exhibits in a whole new way by using the questions, information and activities found in this guide. Get more out of your visit to an exhibit by making hypotheses, asking questions and using all your senses to observe the exhibit. What is going on around it? What do you hear? How does it feel? Experience COSI exhibits in a whole new way by using the questions, information and activities found in this guide.

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COSI’S BULB RECIPE

MATERIALS NEEDED
- 1 cup water
- 2 1/2 tsp dishwashing liquid
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup glycerin (available in most drugstores)
- Bucket and tray
- Weights

Try this: Find a spot in your house, or even outside. Here you can make lots of bubbles and where the floor isn’t slippery. You may want to spread some old towels down first if you spills. Make sure in your house that could serve as bubble wands. You will want the tools to have various sizes and shapes of openings.

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COMMUNICATIONS
1969: The Internet is launched. Interface Message Processors are installed in computers at UCLA and Stanford University. UCLA students “login” to John G. Cannan’s computer and exchange data. Today, it is estimated that millions of people are online.
1983: Cellular phones are introduced. The first phones weigh over two pounds and cost about $3,600. Today, phones weigh mere ounces and the average cost is $50.

ENVIRONMENT
1985: Scientists confirm holes in the Ozone Layer above Antarctica. Ozone depletion is recognized as the world’s first truly global environmental problem. This results in legislation to ban ozone-depleting chemicals, like CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons).
1991: The Biosphere 2 project begins in Arizona with a crew of eight scientists to study in an airtight replica of the Earth (Biosphere 1) over two years. The structure contains five biomes, including a 900,000-gallon ocean, a rainforest, a desert, agricultural areas and a human habitat.

MEDICINE
1978: First test-tube (in vitro) baby is born. The mother’s egg and the father’s sperm are combined in a laboratory and then implanted into the mother’s womb. To date, tens of thousands of babies have been conceived via in vitro fertilization.
1983: Cellular phones are introduced.
2000: Scientists crack the human genome, or DNA code. The human body contains over three billion bits of DNA. It is estimated that each cell of humans have only about 30,000 genes. It is estimated that each cell of the human body contains over three billion bits of DNA.

SPACE EXPLORATION
1984: First EVA (space walk) is performed by an American woman, astronaut Sally Sullivan. STS-41-G and its crew of seven complete 132 orbits of Earth in 25 days. The EVA is performed to demonstrate the feasibility of satellite servicing. Sullivan flew on two more Space Shuttle missions, including the launch to help the Hubble Space Telescope, the largest payload ever to fly to space.
1990: The International Space Station begins to be assembled in Earth’s orbit.

What do you think the world will be like in another 40 years? What areas of science might change the way you live?

In 1964, many people thought that by now we would be driving cars that could fly, or at least strapping jetpacks to our backs and flying ourselves! Science and technology provide the fuel for our dreams. Improved our lives. Space exploration continues to redefine our frontiers. Environmental discoveries and impacts shape our understanding and appreciation of our earth.

In 1999, COSI opened its new Columbus location at 333 West Broad Street. Over this period of time, so much has changed in science, especially in the worlds of communication, the environment, medicine, and space exploration. Advances in communications have changed almost every aspect of our lives. Medical research and practice have expanded and improved our lives. Space exploration continues to redefine our frontiers. Environmental discoveries and impacts shape our understanding and appreciation of our earth.

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