



museum of  
**science+industry**  
chicago

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## FIND YOUR FAVORITES

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) offers countless exhibits and experiences (thousands!) to entertain your brain. With so much to see and do at MSI, it can be difficult to know where to start. But a trip to the largest science museum in the Western Hemisphere can be simple for guests if they know in advance which exhibits will appeal to the various members of their group. So check out the recommendations below. MSI's Web site, [msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org), also features an exhibit-planning tool that can assist with this task, and users can even print out a custom map to plot out their visit!

### These experiences are great for older kids ...

- *Science Storms* – This 26,000-square-foot exhibit reveals the extraordinary science behind some of nature's most powerful and compelling phenomena—tornadoes, lightning, fire, tsunamis, sunlight, avalanches and atoms in motion—and lets guests interact with the phenomena in a hands-on way. Stand inside a 40-foot tornado and use controls to manipulate its air flow. Trigger an avalanche using a 25-foot avalanche disk to understand granular dynamics. Create a tsunami in a 30-foot wave tank to study the power and motion of waves, and much more!
- *YOU! The Experience* – This new Museum icon inspires guests to optimize their personal health and well-being through interactive experiences that are compelling and fun. Whether working with a virtual coach to learn some hip-hop moves or playing *Mindball*, a game in which you win by controlling your brainwaves—guests will see themselves in new and fascinating ways. Examine real human embryos and specimens that showcase the complexity of the human body, diagnose and treat medical conditions with the cutting-edge Human Patient Simulator™ and make the *Giant Heart* come alive with their own pulse.
- *Henry Crown Space Center* –Take an expansive look at space and the United States space program over the decade—and into the future. The Henry Crown Space Center, which includes the Museum's five-story, domed Omnimax® theater, features two revolutionary spacecraft currently on loan to the Museum from the National Air and Space Museum—The Apollo 8 Command Module and the Aurora 7 Mercury Space Capsule. Other important artifacts documenting space travel are on display, and guests can even power a Mars Rover, test a rocket's thrust or take in a video that documents man's first journey to the moon.
- *The Great Train Story* – Learn about the wonders of modern rail operation. This amazing display features more than 30 trains racing along 1,400 feet of track on a cross-country trip between Chicago and Seattle. Marvel at realistic terrain and 500 scale structures—including a 14-foot replica of the Sears Tower.
- *ToyMaker 3000* – Check out the Museum's technological wonder, *ToyMaker 3000*, to learn about automated manufacturing and robotics. Witness the handiwork of 12 robots as they assemble 300 colorful "gravitron" toy tops in an hour. Guests can purchase their own gravitron and see it made before their eyes—with their name engraved on it!
- *Fast Forward ... Inventing the Future* – See and experiment with real-life technology and prototypes from cutting-edge innovators from around the world. Learn about the advances in robotics to create fully functioning artificial intelligence and interact with a real robot. Explore the efforts to make traveling to outer space available to the everyday consumer. Discover how to play an electronic instrument in minutes, seemingly just by moving blocks on a table. As innovation speeds forward, featured inventors and inventions will

rotate to keep pace with the latest in science discovery.

- *Genetics: Decoding Life* – Experience genetics in action. Learn about cloning, modification, development and genetic mutation while observing cloned mice, genetically modified frogs, baby chicks, zebra fish embryos and genetically mutated fruit flies. And yes, even the older kids will enjoy seeing the baby chicks peck out of the shells in the *Chick Hatchery!*
- *Earth Revealed* – This 6-foot in diameter, solid carbon fiber globe is suspended among computers and video projectors, loaded with data sets from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which transform the sphere into an animated, revolving globe that demonstrates the Earth as a living system. In near real time, view the Earth's atmosphere, the flow of our ocean currents, changing temperatures and storm formation, and learn about the geophysical forces that shape the planet. Facilitated shows take place several times each day.
- *Coal Mine* – The Museum's first exhibit takes you on 30-minute tour of a true-to-life Illinois coal mine. Descend "more than 600 feet" into a mineshaft, take a ride on the rails and learn the evolution of technology used in coal mining.
- *Bangs, Flashes & Fire* – In this live science experience, held once a day, see how chemistry plays a part in our daily lives through fire, explosions and flashes of color. Learn the answers to questions like "Why is static electricity a concern at gas stations?" and "How do fireworks get their colors?"
- *Poop Happens* – Learn about the digestion system in this funny and engaging play, held daily. Understand how the body breaks down nutrients for you to grow and be healthy and follow your food from the mouth, to the stomach, and beyond ... Space is limited.
- *Dissect an Eye at MSI* – Discover the inner workings of the eye and learn about how vision works as you dissect a cow eyeball in this 30-minute laboratory experience. This experience is offered daily to those 10 and older.
- *MSI Hospital* – Be the doctor in this unique daily live science experience featuring iStan, our human patient simulator™. Guests learn how to take iStan's vitals and check out some of their own. Then they use their new skills to diagnose iStan's medical condition. Space is limited.

#### **Young children will get a kick out of ...**

- *Idea Factory* – Children up to age 10 will enjoy this learn-through-play exhibit. Infants and toddlers have their own individual spaces where little hands can crank, build and create using water, color and geometric shapes to learn about science. Restrooms and changing areas are provided.
- *Farm Tech* – Discover the role science and technology play in growing and processing the world's most essential product—food! Highlights of the exhibit challenge you to out-milk each other using new robotic milking technology; learn how farmers turn poop into power; take your turn on a tractor and combine; and see how GPS plays an important role in today's farms.
- *Baby Chick Hatchery* – Now located in the *Genetics: Decoding Life* exhibit, the hatchery has been a favorite guest spot since 1954. Fertile chicken eggs are placed in the display on the day they are due to hatch, and you watch as chicks carefully peck their way out of their shells.
- *Colleen Moore's Fairy Castle* – This miniature castle, created by silent film star Colleen Moore in 1930s, measures nine square feet and features working electricity, running water and miniature treasures from around the world. See real books the size of thumbnails; works of art including a mini-mural painted by Walt Disney; lavish chandeliers adorned with real diamonds, emeralds and pearls; and the tiniest bible ever to be written, dating back to 1840.
- *Take Flight* – Climb aboard an actual United Boeing 727 and learn about the wonders of flight through hands-on activities and interactive displays.
- *The Great Train Story* – See description above.

### Adults, including seniors, will enjoy ...

- *U-505 Submarine* – This National Historic Landmark has been at the Museum since 1954; it's the only German U-boat captured during World War II and one of only five U-boats left in the world. In 2005, the sub resurfaced as part of a new 35,000 square-foot interactive exhibit. Guests are immersed in the story of the submarine's capture and technology through more than 200 artifacts, archival footage, veteran testimony, recreated events, interactive challenges and a new, optional on-board tour.
- *All Aboard the Silver Streak* – Step aboard the Pioneer Zephyr, America's first diesel-electric, streamlined, stainless steel passenger train. On May 26, 1934, the Pioneer Zephyr left Denver and arrived in Chicago 13 hours and five minutes later to open "A Century of Progress" World's Fair. That non-stop trip changed the course of railroading and land transportation. A 20-minute guided tour invites guests to go back in time to travel on the Zephyr on the day of its landmark trip!
- *Earth Revealed* – See description above.
- *Colleen Moore's Fairy Castle* – See description above.
- *Fast Forward ... Inventing the Future* – See description above.
- *YOU! The Experience* – See description above.
- *Science Storms* – See description above.
- *Henry Crown Space Center* – See description above.
- *Earth Revealed* – See description above.
- *Bangs, Flashes & Fire* – See description above.
- *Dissect an Eye at MSI* – See description above.
- *MSI Hospital*– See description above.

### Everyone will love ...

- *Christmas Around the World* and *Holidays of Light* – Founded in 1942 as a salute to Allies during World War II, *Christmas Around the World* continues to enchant with a display of more than 50 trees decorated in traditions from around the globe by members the city's ethnic groups. *Holidays of Light* is a multicultural display featuring holiday traditions that celebrate light or enlightenment.
- *Omnimax® Theater*– Enjoy an amazing giant-screen experience on Chicago's only fish-eye projection lens and wrap-around, five-story domed screen. MSI offers at least two films at any given time that will take you on a trip into the deepest oceans, over the tallest mountains, into space, across borders and cultures—and much more.

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