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## **KEEP KIDS ENGAGED AND LEARNING SCIENCE THIS SUMMER WITH MSI!**

Fifth annual Summer Brain Games program kicks off June 16, 2016

**CHICAGO, III. (April 2016)**—Take off on a voyage of exploration this summer with hands-on science activities related to the theme of travel through the Summer Brain Games program from the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI).

Summer Brain Games offers eight weeks of free and fun at-home science experiments designed to combat the "summer brain drain." Families receive a FREE Museum Entry voucher when they sign up online at msichicago.org/summerbrain (one ticket per household). **This year's Summer Brain Games runs June 16 through August 13, 2016.** Registration is now open, and vouchers will be emailed when the program kicks off on June 16.

Registered families will receive weekly emails with detailed instructions on eight different travelthemed science activities that can be easily done (with some adult supervision) using items found around the house or inexpensively purchased.

Kids will be on the move with experiments that teach about engineering, physics, materials science and other STEM subjects as they launch a glider, move a vehicle with propulsion, engineer a parachute and more. It's a great way for families with kids of all ages to stay active and enthused as they learn more about the world around them.

"Kids lose about three months of learning over the summer, which means those first few weeks when school starts again is devoted to relearning the same concepts," said Bryan Wunar, the Museum's director of community initiatives. "With Summer Brain Games, thousands of kids and their families join us to experiment, learn and have fun together. We are excited to bring back this program for a fourth year."

## **Register Online Now for Summer Brain Games**

Families can register NOW at msichicago.org/summerbrain. When the program kicks off on June 16, they'll receive a voucher good for a FREE Museum Entry ticket to MSI, and the instructions for the first activity. Then each week, families will receive an email with instructions and tips on each activity and additional suggestions on how to explore science during the summer.

Thousands of registrants from around the country have enjoyed the program the past four summers. Here's what previous participants said:

• "Our family had a wonderful time exploring and learning. The kids looked forward to having a different project to work on weekly."

(more)

- "Trying the activities together made it worthwhile when the kids got to see that it works! The best thing my oldest said was that she learned the value of teamwork."
- "This was such an easy and wonderful way to experience science that showed the kids science can be fun and done just about anywhere."

**The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI)**, one of the largest science museums in the world, offers world-class and uniquely interactive experiences that inspire inventive genius and foster curiosity. From groundbreaking and award-winning exhibits that can't be found anywhere else, to hands-on opportunities that make *you* the scientist—a visit to MSI is where fun and learning mix. Through its Center for the Advancement of Science Education (CASE), the Museum offers a variety of student, teacher and family programs that make a difference in communities and contribute to MSI's larger vision: to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. Come visit and find your inspiration! MSI is open 9:30–4 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas day. Extended hours, until 5:30 p.m., are offered during peak periods. The Museum is grateful for the support of its donors and guests, who make its work possible. MSI is also supported in part by the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, visit <u>msichicago.org</u> or call (773) 684-1414 or (800) GO-TO-MSI outside of the Chicago area.

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