



SCIENCE MATTERS

Science Partners Newsletter

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*O sing unto the LORD a new song;
For He has done marvelous things.* Psalm 98:1

*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:
Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*
2 Corinthians 5:17



New Year's Resolutions – Adapted from The Gospel Coalition

New Year's resolutions are typically based on our definition of what it means to be healthy. And these definitions are often based on what is good for us as **individuals**. We want to lose weight, exercise more, eat healthier, sleep better, and so on. But how does God define health? Consider these verses:

- *Man does not live on bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.* Matthew 4:4
- *My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity. . . . This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.* Proverbs 3:1–2, 8
- *For while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8
- *Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.* James 5:14
- *You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.* Isaiah 26:3

Beware of resolutions fueling an unhealthy preoccupation with self. *If I achieve this goal, then I'll be noticed, accepted, applauded, loved.* When resolutions are done in community, individuality goes out the window; accomplishment becomes connected to the **group**. Success becomes related to how well we encouraged *one another* and persevered *together*. Not only does this kill pride, it also reflects the communal nature of God, who worked in community to achieve the great act of creation: *“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness,”* Genesis 1:26. It becomes easier to be healthy, as God defines health, when we are connected to others in our resolutions.

Science Partners Classes: January Reminders

1. **January tuition for weekly science students** is due on the 1st of the month and overdue with a \$5 per student late fee on the 10th.
2. **Monthly tuition for MSSW students** is due on the class day and overdue with a \$5 per student late fee one week after the class date.
3. **Classes resume** after Christmas Break on January 9.
4. **Weekly Students' Quarter 2 grades** have been emailed home. Please let us know if you haven't received yours.



CMI's New Movie – *ALIEN INTRUSION*, Thursday, January 11



On January 11th, you have a unique opportunity ...

Sci-fi and aliens are the box office's #1 draw!

The evidence seems overwhelming that *something* is out there. **But what does the Bible**, God's inerrant Word which contains all the answers to life and godliness, **have to say about UFOs and aliens?** **It's easy** to bring your unsaved family and friends along to see this **faith-building movie**. [*Alien Intrusion: Unmasking a Deception*](#) will be appearing in over 730 theaters around the country on January 11.

Check out [AlienIntrusion.com](#).
Click below to get your tickets!



"...one of the most disturbing yet powerful affirmations of the truth of the Bible and Christianity."
— John Schneider (NARRATOR)

Get tickets now!

LAST CALL! Manatee Snorkel Encounter – Friday, January 26

***Deadline for minimum number has been extended one week.
If you are interested in this trip, we must know by January 5, 2018.***

Crystal River and Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park. In the morning, outfitted with wetsuits, masks, snorkels, and fins, we will take a pontoon boat to locate manatees in the crystal clear, spring-fed waters. During our encounter, we'll observe first-hand these sociable, endangered mammals. We'll study them "up close and personal" in their natural habitat and discover what they look like, what they feel like, how they breathe, what they eat, and more! We'll also learn what threatens the manatee's survival and how we can help. In the afternoon, we'll explore Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park, a showcase for native Florida wildlife. We'll visit the Children's Education Center and also see many examples of Florida wildlife, some endangered or threatened. We'll take the Wildlife Walk through natural wildlife habitats, keeping an eye out for gators, snakes, deer, Florida black bear, bobcats, otter, Florida panthers, manatees (underwater floating observatory), and a variety of birds including endangered whooping cranes. **For more information, click here:** http://www.sciencepartners.net/uploads/9/8/8/0/9880494/01-26-18_manatee_snorkel_encounter.pdf.



LAST CALL! For the Birds – Wednesday, January 31

***Deadline for minimum number has been extended one week.
If you are interested in this trip, we must know by January 10, 2018.***



Orlando Wetlands Park Come along as we focus on Florida birds at **Orlando Wetlands Park** in East Orange County. According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, birding is the number one sport in America! The U.S. has over 51 million birders, and the number is growing. On this "**Introduction to Birding**" field trip, we will first learn how birds were specifically designed by their Creator to do what they do. Next, we will get down to the **basics of birding: how to use binoculars, how to use a field guide, and how to identify birds.** Then, we will take a **hike** observing birds in the wild. Children will have the opportunity to **earn a Jr. Birding Certificate** through Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and also how to continue earning advanced birding certificates on their own. Our day will include information on birding resources, how to start a bird "life list," how to use bird alpha codes, how to create a backyard habitat for birds, where to see birds around Florida, **bird crafts**, and more! **For more info, click here:** http://www.sciencepartners.net/uploads/9/8/8/0/9880494/2018-01-31_for_the_birds.pdf

Repticon Orlando – Saturday - Sunday, January 27 - 28, Central FL Fairgrounds



Stroll down aisles of reptiles, amphibians, exotic animals, feeders, cages, supplies, and wonderful themed merchandise. The entertainment and education include presentations, interaction with live animals, and seminars covering a broad range of animal topics. Click here for more info: [Repticon Orlando](#).

- Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM.
- Two Day Ticket at the Door: \$15 for adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, free for ages 4 and under.
- One Day Ticket at the Door: \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 5-12, free for ages 4 and under.

Schedule a *Creation Adventure* for Your Homeschool Group or Christian School

1. **Go to Science Partners' website, www.sciencepartners.net.**
2. **Click on the "Creation Field Trips" and "Creation Workshops" tabs** to review the field trips and workshops that we offer.
3. **Go to the "Calendar" tab** to see what dates are available.
4. **Contact us when you have decided on an event and a date**, so we can begin our scheduling process and make reservations with our vendors.
5. **We will contact you for final approval** once everything is confirmed. Then, your event will be added to our website calendar. For homeschool groups, an information/registration form will be linked to your event date. For Christian schools, a form is not needed for each participant.
6. **Questions?** Contact Merilee Clifton at sciencepartners@cfl.rr.com or 407-808-4458 (cell / text).



Upcoming 2017-18 *Creation Adventures*



The following *Creation Adventures* are open to all homeschool families. They have been scheduled through The Classical School at The First Academy and/or Science Partners and are open to everyone!

Our goal is to provide participants with a unique and fascinating creationist perspective of God's great design in nature and to teach them how to see God's handiwork in all of creation!

We hope you can join us! For information/registration forms, go to our web calendar: <http://www.sciencepartners.net/calendar.html>, and click on the date that interests you!

- **January 26 (Friday):**
Manatee Snorkel Encounter, Crystal River and Homosassa Springs Wildlife Park.
- **January 31 (Wednesday):**
For the Birds, Orlando Wetlands Park.
- **February 16 (Friday):**
To be announced.
- **March 16 (Friday):**
Florida's Water Systems, Canaveral National Seashore, Merritt Island NWR, Indian River Lagoon, and St. Johns River.
- **April 16 (Monday):**
The Heavens Declare!, Astronomy workshop – STARLAB portable planetarium, WaterStone Church in Longwood.