



SCIENCE MATTERS

Science Partners Newsletter

August / September 2024 – In This Issue:

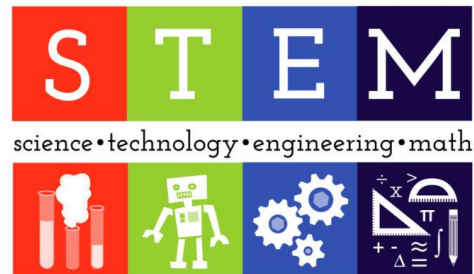
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Save the Dates: Jan. 31 – Feb. 1, 2025: *Creation-based STEM Workshop*

Creation Education Resources is sponsoring the upcoming **Creation-based STEM Workshop** on Friday, January 31, and Saturday, February 1, 2025. This exciting educational opportunity will be held at Hibernia Baptist Church in Fleming, near Jacksonville. The six speakers listed below will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math from a biblical, creation perspective, presenting three or four topics in their respective areas. Classes will be at Jr. High/High School level.

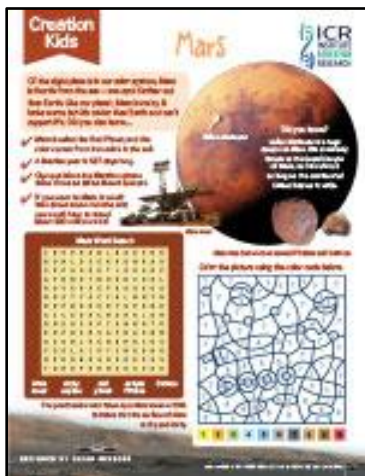
- Bill Clifton – Biology
- Danny Faulkner – Astronomy and Physics
- Joe Laughlin – General Science
- Alfred Menendez – Aerospace Engineering
- Jim Mirabella – Math
- Mike Riddle – Worldviews and Apologetics



Pencil these dates in on your calendar and look for more details to follow in upcoming newsletters!

Institute for Creation Research's *Creation Kids: Mars*

by Susan Windsor, Graphic Design Specialist at ICR



You're never too young to be a creation scientist and explore our Creator's world. Kids can discover fun facts about God's creation with ICR's special Creation Kids learning and activities page. (Links below.)

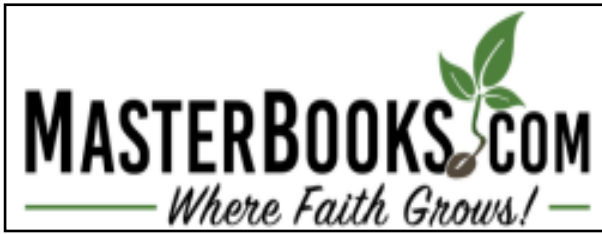
Of the eight planets in our solar system, Mars is fourth from the sun - one spot farther out than Earth. Like our planet, Mars is rocky. Why is it red, and how long would it take to travel there? Find out this and more!

Click [HERE](#) to download the **Mars** activity page.

Click [HERE](#) for all of ICR's **Creation Kids** activity pages.

And, for lots more **"Creation Information,"** go to www.ICR.org.

Repeat Info: Florida Families – Save on Master Books Curriculum with ESAs



Master Books is excited to share a fantastic opportunity for your homeschooling journey – **Education Savings Accounts (ESAs)**. ESAs provide families with financial flexibility and support for education expenses. ***And here's some great news: Master Books curriculum is now eligible for purchase through Florida's Step Up for Students Educational Savings Program!***

Purchases will be made at MyScholarShop.

What does this mean for you? You can enhance your children's education with Master Books' gospel-infused, homeschool curriculum materials while maximizing your savings through state-sponsored education funds. It's a win-win situation, empowering you to tailor your child's learning experience without breaking the bank.

Here's how you can make the most of this opportunity:

- 1. Explore Master Books Curriculum:** Browse Master Books' extensive collection of curriculum materials designed to meet the needs of Christian homeschooling families. From foundational subjects to enriching electives, they've got you covered.
- 2. Utilize ESAs:** Tap into the benefits of Education Savings Accounts by using them to purchase Master Books curriculum. Stretch your educational dollars further while giving your children an exceptional faith-based, educational experience.
- 3. Florida's Step Up for Students Educational Savings Program:** Take advantage of this program specifically tailored for homeschooling families in Florida. It has never been easier to access high-quality educational resources while optimizing your budget.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to elevate your homeschooling journey with Master Books curriculum and ESAs. Empower your children with knowledge, values, and a love for learning that will last a lifetime.

☆ GET THE DETAILS HERE ☆

Visiting a Natural History Museum? See **GENESIS Impact** Movie First!

If you're considering visiting a Natural History Museum with your family any time soon, please be sure to watch the **Genesis Impact** movie first! This movie shows how you can see a secular natural history museum through a biblical lens. You'll never view Natural History Museums the same way again...

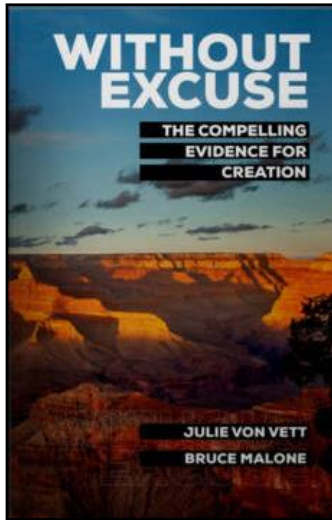
This movie was produced by **Genesis Apologetics**. Just click on **"WATCH NOW"** on the right and you will be directed to their website to watch the movie FREE!

Genesis Apologetics offers many other biblically-based, creation-oriented resources on a wide range of topics and for different age groups - all for FREE on their website at www.GenesisApologetics.com. Check them out!



Without Excuse: The Truth about “Lucy”

The Compelling Evidence for Creation



(Be sure to see *Visiting a Natural History Museum* article on page 2.)

If asked to name a supposed ape-to-human fossil link, almost any student in America is likely to respond, “Lucy.” Donald Johanson, the paleoanthropologist who discovered this set of bones in Ethiopia (consisting of only 20% of the animal’s original skeleton), did a masterful job of marketing to both the scientific community and the general public that this is the definitive link between our purported apeish ancestor and modern humans. Numerous facts are left out of essentially all museum displays and textbooks.

1. Johanson’s initial research report stated that he had found fully human bone fragments in the same vicinity as Lucy. Only later did he claim these larger bones were from larger animal males of the species. This interpretation was rejected in numerous papers by other evolutionary experts. Johanson promoted the idea (that these human bones were not really human) because if humans lived at the same time and in the same vicinity, Lucy was merely an ape variation, not a human ancestor.

2. No hand or foot bones were found with Lucy, but another researcher (Mary Leakey) found fully human footprints in the same general rock strata, located 1,000 miles away in Tanzania. Because of these prints (found in another country!), Johanson ASSUMED his creature walked upright with human-like hands and feet! **Every textbook and museum display show Lucy with human feet.** Yet other fossils of this chimp-sized creature (Australopithecus) show they had the hands and feet of a branch-grabbing monkey, which are completely different than human hands and feet. This is conveniently ignored.

3. Numerous technical papers on Lucy-type fossils have documented that these tiny (less than 4 feet tall, 65 pounds) creatures had arms hanging down to the knees (like an ape); the brain size, skull, face, and jaw of an ape; the shoulders, rib cage, and spine characteristic of apes (not humans); and the hips, knees, hands, and feet of an ape! In other words, Lucy was an ape!

4. An increasing number of researchers place Lucy (and the entire Australopithecine family) as simply an extinct variation of some ape-like creature. Yet the media, textbooks, and museums continue to promote her as our ancestor. Lucy is not the missing link; she was at best a degenerated human, but most likely just a variation of an ape. All of this is meticulously documented in the book, **Contested Bones**, by John Rupe and Dr. John Sanford.



“So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them,” Genesis 1:27.

Please Note:

This daily devotion was taken with permission from the book **“Without Excuse”** by Julie Von Vett (a homeschooling mom teaching creation science to homeschoolers since 2003) and Bruce Malone, and published by *Search for the Truth Ministries*. It offers awesome evidence, primarily scientific – yet easily understandable, for the existence of a Creator. Arranged in an enjoyable daily devotional format, each provides yet another reason to trust God’s Word. It is organized into different subject areas: age of creation, anatomy, astronomy, biology, botany, design, flood geology, genetics, history, and truth. There are also 42 YouTube video links spaced throughout the book that are wonderful visual reinforcements for parents and teachers sharing the creation science concepts with students. We highly recommend this book. and we are using it as part of our daily devotions. To purchase your own copy, go to <https://searchforthetruth.net/store/>.



St. Augustine – Florida History Tour

Friday, October 11, 2024

Creation Adventures by Science Partners



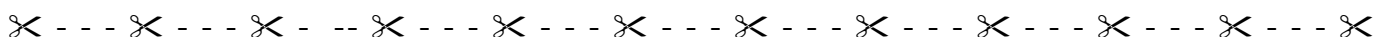
Jesus said, “Whosoever drinketh of the water I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” *John 4:14*

Join Bill and Merilee Clifton as we **tour St. Augustine, our nation’s oldest city**. Our day begins at the **Fountain of Youth**, a National Archaeological Park, located at the site of the ancient Timucuan Indian town of Seloy. This is where the history of North America began when Ponce de Leon came ashore and claimed ALL of North America for Spain. Our group will tour **the Spring House** where we can **sample water from the spring** that Ponce de Leon thought was the Fountain of Youth. We’ll also see the **Discovery Globe, Navigators Planetarium, Timucuan Village of Seloy, and canon firing** (based on availability). Then, we’re off to the historic district where we’ll park at the Historic Downtown Parking Facility. Parking is \$20 per vehicle (cash, VISA, or Master Card – and subject to change) per entry. Our **group activities** downtown will include **Colonial Kids** activities and a **Red Train Tour**. With our St. Augustine guide, we’ll learn about kids in colonial times in St. Augustine. Colonial Kids includes activities such as loom weaving, making a toy (whirligig), palm leaf weaving, knot boards, shoe sewing, and making a shell necklace. On the Red Train, we’ll enjoy a fully-narrated tour of dozens of historic sites downtown. Then on our own, we’ll explore **historic St. George Street**, stepping back in time to see the **Huguenot Cemetery, the City Gate, and the Oldest Wooden Schoolhouse in the USA** as well as displays in the St. Augustine Visitor Information Center. We have the option of a **self-guided visit to Castillo de San Marcos** to explore 300 years of Florida history in this unique national monument. Note: At CdSM, ages 16+ must pay \$15 entrance fee (subject to change) or have a pass. **Free passes** for **FAMILIES of 4th graders** are available at everykidoutdoors.gov, but **must be printed ahead of time**.

We will meet between 8:45 and 9:00 AM at the Fountain of Youth, 11 Magnolia Ave., St. Augustine. Check in with the Cliftons for driving directions and schedule for the day. **Our day as a group will end at the historic district at 4:00 PM. Be sure to bring a picnic lunch.** It’s always a good idea to bring sunscreen, insect repellent, water, and rain poncho. **Minimum number is 40. Maximum number is 56 (Red Train capacity).** A responsible adult must accompany and supervise all children. **Minimum age: 5 years is recommended** (however, younger children may attend). Cost for ages 3 - 15 is \$41 and for ages 16 years and up is \$46. **Deadline for minimum number is September 13. Late registrations may be accepted, space permitting.**

You may register two ways:

- (1) Make your **check or money order** payable to **Science Partners** and mail it along with your registration form below to **343 Allison Ave., Longwood, FL 32750**. (Checks will be held until minimum number is reached.)
- (2) Make your **Zelle** payment to **Science Partners** at **407-808-4458**. Also email or text the information requested **on the form below** to Science Partners at sciencepartners@cfl.rr.com or 407-808-4458.



Registration Form: ST. AUGUSTINE – FLORIDA HISTORY TOUR, Friday, October 11, 2024

Family’s Last Name:		Cell Number:		
Homeschool Group:		Email:		
Adult Names:	Children’s Names and Ages:	Children’s Names and Ages:		
1.	1.	1.	4.	4.
2.	2.	2.	5.	5.
3.	3.	3.	6.	6.
Cost: (Ages 2 and under are free)				
# Ages 3 - 15 years = ____ @ \$41 = \$ _____		# Ages 16 years + = ____ @ \$46 = \$ _____		
Total: \$	Circle Payment Type: Check Money Order Zelle			

It's Time to Plan a 2024-2025 CREATION ADVENTURE for Your Group!

Join the Cliftons as we take a hike, snorkel with manatees, ride an airboat, hold an alligator, go beachcombing, seine in a lagoon, go birding, earn a birding certificate, learn about Florida history, and more on a Creation Field Trip in the great outdoors of Florida. Or see the heavens in a portable planetarium, learn about bears, bugs, dinosaurs, marine science, Noah's Ark, and more in a Creation Workshop at your location!



Creation Field Trips: All-day trips out in the field!

1. **Central Florida Habitats** – Blue Spring State Park and Lyonia Preserve.
2. **Creationist Guide to SeaWorld** – SeaWorld Orlando.
3. **Florida's Water Systems** – Canaveral National Seashore, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Indian River Lagoon, St. Johns River.
4. **For the Birds** – Orlando Wetlands Park, Christmas.
5. **Manatee Snorkel Encounter** – Crystal River and Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park.
6. **St. Augustine – Florida History Tour** – Historic Downtown St. Augustine.

Creation Workshops: Three-hour programs at your location!

1. **The Bear Essentials**
2. **The Heavens Declare!**
3. **Hidden Kingdom – Insects & Arachnids**
4. **Marine Science – A Sea of Evidence**
5. **Noah's Ark and the Worldwide Flood**
6. **Walk with the Dinosaurs**

How to Schedule Your Creation Field Trip or Workshop:

1. Go to our website: www.sciencepartners.net. Click on the “**Creation Field Trips**” and “**Creation Workshops**” tabs to review the field trips and workshops that we offer.
2. Go to the “**Calendar**” tab to see what dates are already scheduled and check on available dates.
3. Once you've decided on an event and a date, contact us so we can begin contacting vendors and making reservations. Now you can sit back and relax! We'll take care of all the details!
4. Once everything is confirmed, we will contact you, and your event will be added to our website calendar. For homeschool families, a registration form will be linked to your event date (unless your event is “closed” for your group only). Christian school classes do not need a registration form for each participant.
5. If you have any questions, please contact Merilee Clifton by phone at 407-808-4458 or by email at sciencepartners@cfl.rr.com.

P.S. If your small homeschool group can't meet the minimum number for the event, with your permission we can “open” the trip to other homeschoolers.

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!

Bill Clifton's Senior Adult Ministry

While serving on church staff at First Baptist Church of Altamonte Springs, Bill developed a special desire to minister to, entertain, challenge, and spiritually engage older adults. He does this through leading group singing of the old Gospel hymns accompanied by his banjo *Harriette*, storytelling, and Biblical devotions.

Some of the churches Bill has ministered to are Downtown Baptist Church, Orlando Baptist Church, Lockhart Baptist Church, and First Baptist Church of Altamonte Springs – although being a Baptist is not a requirement! ☺

Bill and his wife Merilee look forward to using their gifts and talents with your senior adult luncheons or other gatherings. Contact us if you love to sing the old Gospel hymns, laugh 'til you cry, and reflect on God's Word.



“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.”
Proverbs 17:22

***“Give thanks to the LORD with the banjo;
make melody to him with the instrument of five strings.”***
Psalm 33:2 (Clifton Version)

***Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing.”***
Psalm 100:1-2

***For more information or to have Bill share at your event,
contact Bill or Merilee Clifton at 407-808-4458 or info@sciencepartners.net.***

