

# My visit to the Ontario Science Centre



ONTARIO  
**SCIENCE**  
CENTRE

**geneva**  
centre for  
autism

# Welcome to the Ontario Science Centre

This visitors guide was prepared in collaboration with the Geneva Centre for Autism

Here are some things you should know about the Ontario Science Centre.



Be prepared for lots of people and lineups. At popular exhibits, you may have to wait your turn and let others have their turn too. The Science Centre is hands-on, but you can choose what to touch or try.



The Centre can be a busy and noisy place during the day, on weekends and during the holidays. It is less busy after 2 p.m. on weekdays and between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturdays. Please note that there is a room called the Quiet Zone, located on Level 1, which you can use.



You can store your belongings in a locker for \$1. Lockers are located at the main entrance on Level 2. You can get a wheelchair at this location too.



Please keep in mind that lighting can differ from place to place in our exhibit halls. Some areas, like our planetarium, need to be dark. You can also experience differences in temperature. Our rain forest, for example, is hot and humid.



Washrooms are located on Levels 1, 2, 4 and 6. All are equipped with automatic flushing toilets except for the ones in KidSpark on Level 4 and the Studios on Level 2.



There are several food service options at the Centre. You can also bring your own lunch or snack and eat it in the seating provided on Levels 2, 4 and 6.



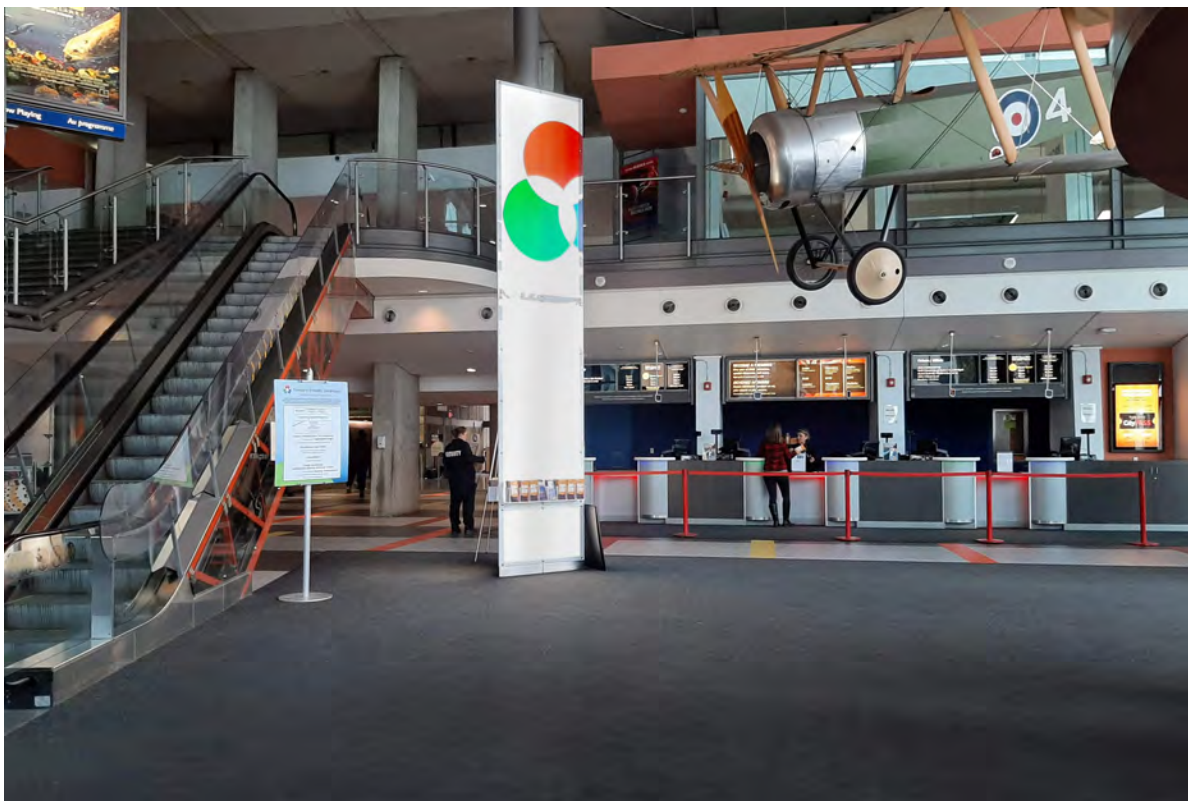
We have several outdoor spaces that invite you to explore exhibits outside. Outdoor entrances and exits are open during public hours, but may be closed due to season or weather.



I am going to the Ontario Science Centre today.



## Entrance – Level 2



When I get to the Science Centre, I might need to buy my ticket. There might be lots of people and I might need to wait in line. This is okay.

**Caregiver Tip:** Please note that entry to all IMAX films requires a separate ticket purchased from the box office in the front lobby.

## Entrance – Level 2



A staff member will be sitting at this desk.

I may give them my ticket or my grown-up may show them our membership. I can go inside and look around.

## Entrance – Level 2



Ontario Science Centre staff are adults I can learn from.  
Some staff wear lab coats. Some staff wear a black sweater.  
They can answer my questions. They can help me if I get lost.



## Celebration Way – Level 2



I will walk down a long hall where I can learn about scientific discoveries.

## MindWorks – Level 2



In MindWorks I can learn about the mind.  
Some of the exhibits light up, some will vibrate, and  
some will make noise.



## Space – Level 4



In the Space Hall, I can learn about the stars and planets. This hall is dark but I will still be able to see. If it gets too dark for me, I can ask my grown-up if I can leave.

**Caregiver Tip:** There can be a lineup for the Planetarium show as there is limited seating (max. 50 visitors). For assistance, please speak to a Host in a white lab coat. Note that there are two separate entrances/exits for the Space Hall.

# KidSpark – Level 4

(for kids 8 years and under)

In KidSpark, I can play! I can build things, try on costumes, play music, blow bubbles, and put boats in water. It can get loud and busy. If I need to leave, I can ask my grown-up to take me somewhere else.



**Caregiver Tip:** KidSpark has only one entrance and exit. The washrooms here are manual (not automatic flush), so are easier for kids to use. If you require assistance, please speak to one of the Hosts.

## Hot Zone – Level 6



When I get to Level 6 I will walk into a large area. I will see a large exhibit of the Sun or Earth. It will be fun to watch but I cannot touch it.

**Caregiver Tip:** Hot Zone is a central hub that connects to several other exhibit halls on Level 6.



# The AstraZeneca Human Edge – Level 6



Here I can exercise, dance, and climb a rock wall.  
I can also find out what I will look like in 50 years with  
a computer aging machine.

**Caregiver Tip:** The AstraZeneca Human Edge has multiple entrances and exits and does not have an open layout where you can see everything.

# Weston Family Innovation Centre – Level 6



In the Weston Family Innovation Centre, I can build, experiment and test my ideas.

**Caregiver Tip:** The Weston Family Innovation Centre has multiple entrances and exits. Some experiences involve hot glue guns and scissors.



# The Living Earth and TELUS Rain Forest – Level 6



In The Living Earth and Rain Forest, I can see lots of live animals and learn about water. There is a cave that I can go into.

**Caregiver Tip:** The Rain Forest will feel warm and sometimes misty. Some visitors may also be sensitive to the different smells in the Rain Forest.



# Science Arcade – Level 6



In the Science Arcade, I can play with instruments and try lots of experiments using balls, bicycles, weights, wheels, and magnets.

# A Question Of Truth – Level 5



In this area I can learn about people and cultures from around the world.

There are puzzles to try.

I can learn how to write my name using symbols.

**Caregiver Tip:** There are two different entrances and exits to this hall. Level 5 can only be accessed from Level 6 by either an elevator or the stairwells. This particular exhibit hall may appeal more to older children.

# Special Programs and Demonstrations – Level 1

## A Hair-Raising Experience



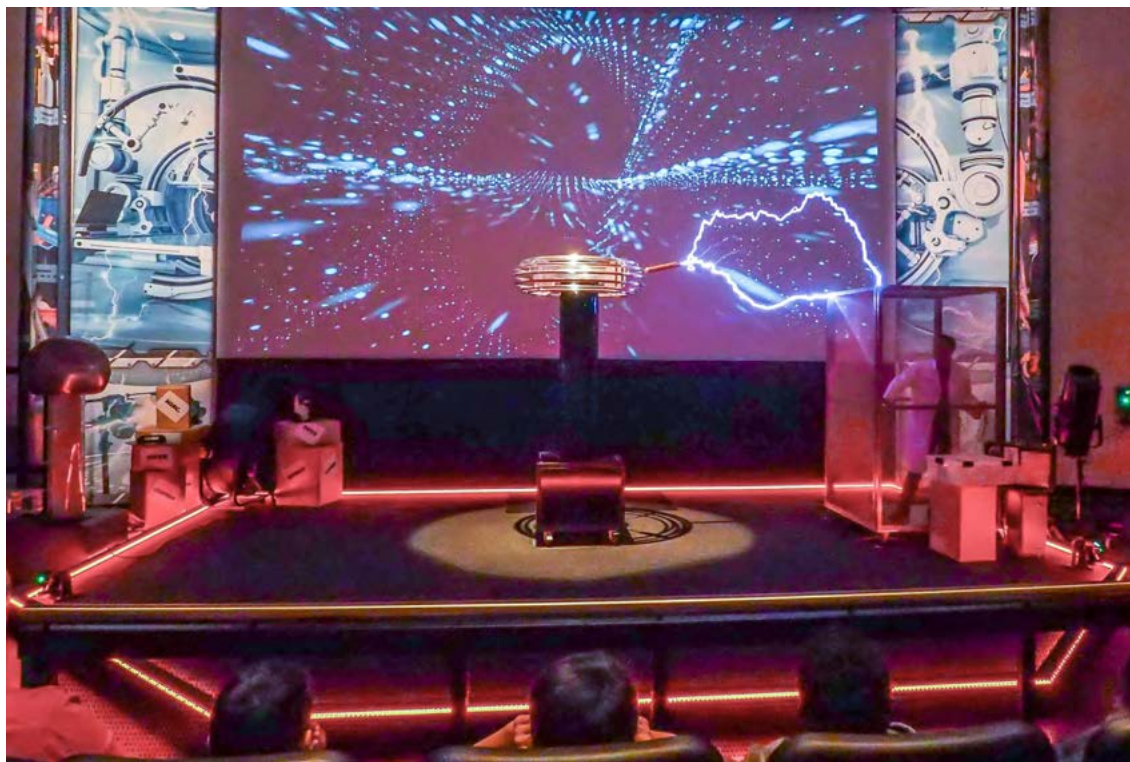
I can watch a show where people touch a big ball. I will wait my turn to touch it. When I touch it, it might make my body tingle. It might make my hair stand up. If I don't want to try it, I don't have to.

**Caregiver Tip:** Show times change daily and are posted at the main entrance and on the information boards on Levels 4 and 6. Please note that all visitors must keep their hand on the ball during the experience. Host staff will remind visitors during the show.



# Special Programs and Demonstrations – Level 1

## The Energy Show



I can watch the Energy Show. I can wait in line to go inside. Inside I will find a seat and sit down. The Host will demonstrate fun experiments about electricity. I will sit in my seat during the show.

## Special Program and Demonstrations – Level 4

### The Planetarium



I can see a show in the Planetarium. I wait in line to go inside. I can lie down or sit on a seat. It will be dark inside. I will see stars. I will learn about stars and planets.

**Caregiver Tip:** There can be a lineup for the Planetarium show as there is limited seating (max. 50 visitors). For assistance, please speak to a Host in a white lab coat. Note that there are two separate entrances/exits for the Space Hall.

## Special Programs and Demonstrations – Level 6

### Papermaking



I can go to the papermaking demonstration. Here I can learn how paper is made. If I want to, I can make paper. My hands will get wet and sticky when I make paper. This is okay. I can wash my hands.



# The Quiet Zone – Level 1



If the Science Centre is too loud, I can go to the Quiet Zone with my grown-up. The Quiet Zone is near the front entrance. In the Quiet Zone I can take a break.



I had a good time! I did a good job!  
I can't wait to visit again soon!