

EXHIBIT



Mairin Chapman/The State News

Three-year-old Syera Dillworth, of San Jose, Calif., explores Saturday at Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, in Lansing. Dillworth was in town visiting her father, who lives in Lansing. The center held Chemistry Day for children in celebration of Chemistry Week.

Science center bonds children to chemistry

By Shaun Byron
The State News

Lansing — Science was trying to make an impression on some children Saturday.

Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, along with the MSU Chemistry Department and MBI International, 3900 Collins Road, sponsored Chemistry Day for children and parents.

"Chemistry Day celebrates Chemistry Week and we have been celebrating for 15 years," environmental engineering Professor Susan Masten said. "It's to help children learn about chemistry."

Masten, who is a board member of the MSU local section of the American Chemical Society, said by 1 p.m., more than 400 bags of items were given to children to keep their projects in.

"We had 500 Girl Scouts register for the event," said Kathryn Severin, a specialist in the Department of Chemistry.

Severin also is coordinator of National Chemistry Week for the MSU local section of the American Chemical Society. She said the theme of the day was chemistry and art.

"I think the children are having a great time, the scout leaders are also happy having it here," she said.

The children agreed with Severin.

The museum was flooded with the screams and laughter as parents strolled and children ran to the displays.

Eight-year-old Lansing resident Esther Roach said she enjoyed making the arts and crafts.

"I really liked doing the

butterfly thing and the marbled paper," she said of the tie-dye paper activities.

But seeing pocket change getting cleaned was popular with other children.

Ten-year-olds Amanda Williams and Olivia Spoelman said they were having fun with everything, but especially liked watching the penny-cleaning display.

"He used this acid stuff and we also made a Christmas tree ornament," Amanda said.

But other children just enjoyed playing with the displays Impression 5 has every day.

Eight-year-old Gabriel King and 10-year-old Joshua King couldn't stop jumping in front of the shadow display. The exhibit would flash a light of the Lansing residents as they posed and hopped.

"You can see what you're doing when they take the flash," Gabriel said.

Eleven-year old Nathan Hill was playing with his brother and sisters at the water display. The display took up an entire room and had a cylinder that spun around when the Lansing residents poured water into it.

"It's a special kind of dam," Nathan said.

Stephanie Imgrund was watching the children and said she decided to take them to the museum when she noticed an advertisement in the paper.

"It's easy how Impression 5 can make something so ordinary so fun," she said.

One visitor was more impressed with merchandise.

"My favorite display is the gift shop," said 10-year-old East Lansing resident Ray Morgan.