



Special Saturdays are FREE science programs for children ages 5-12. Programs run 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please [pre-register](#) on our website (lsu.edu/mns under “Education & Programs”).

ICE SHEET RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Special Guest: Dr. Phil Bart¹, Geologist

Antarctica has a very interesting geology. The land mass is twice the size of Australia and has moved from more tropical regions of the Earth to the South Pole where it is currently covered in ice. Right now, Antarctica is losing ice and causing sea levels to rise. Come learn about the phenomenon of ice sheet retreat with geologist Dr. Phil Bart.

ALL ABOUT PENGUINS

OCTOBER 19, 2019

Special Guest: Dr. Michael Polito², Marine Biologist

Did you know there are over 15 species of penguins? Penguins are aquatic, flightless birds found almost exclusively in the Southern Hemisphere. Come learn all about these unique birds with marine biologist Dr. Michael Polito.

PHYLO-WHAT?

NOVEMBER 16, 2019

Special Guest: Dr. Jeremy Brown³, Biologist

Every living thing is connected by common ancestry. Scientists use tools called phylogenies to understand how groups of organisms are related to each other. Come learn how to read and use phylogenetic trees with biologist Dr. Jeremy Brown.

ESCAPE FROM DISASTER

DECEMBER 14, 2019

Special Guest: Rachel Harman⁴, Ecologist

As environments change, organisms have to adapt. When an animal's habitat is no longer a good place for it to live, sometimes it will disperse (move from one area to another) to find a better home. Come learn how animals do this successfully with ecologist Rachel Harman.

1-LSU Department of Geology & Geophysics

2-LSU Department of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences

3-LSU Department of Biological Sciences, LSUMNS

4-LSU Department of Biological Sciences

5-LSU Herbarium

BUST A MOVE

JANUARY 25, 2020

Special Guest: Jon Nations³, Mammalogist

Mammals are found in a variety of habitats from forests, to oceans, to underground tunnels. To move through these environments, they had to develop different ways of getting around. Come learn about mammal locomotive styles with mammalogist, Jon Nations.

FISH, FISH, FISHES

FEBRUARY 15, 2020

Special Guest: Dr. Prosanta Chakrabarty³, Ichthyologist

There are over 30,000 species of fish around the world. Come explore the diversity of fishes (yes, it's fishES) and where you can find them with ichthyologist, Dr. Prosanta Chakrabarty. We will also be holding a book signing at this event for the fish exhibit activity book Making a Big Splash with Louisiana Fishes co-written by Dr. Chakrabarty.

ANCIENT ANTARCTIC POLLEN

MARCH 7, 2020

Special Guest: Meghan Duffy¹, Palynologist

Did you know Antarctica used to be covered by forests millions of years ago? How do scientists know this, and what kind of plants lived there? The answer is fossil pollen! Come learn all about the ancient plants on Antarctica and their pollen with palynologist, Meghan Duffy.

POLLINATION STATION

APRIL 4, 2020

Special Guests: Laymon Ball, Janet Mansaray, Diego Paredes⁵, Botanists

Pollination is the transfer of pollen from the male part of the flower to the female part. Plants depend on pollination to produce seeds and make new plants. Come learn all about this process with botanists Laymon Ball, Janet Mansaray, and Diego Paredes from the LSU Herbarium.

SALT: THE GRAIN OF LIFE

MAY 2, 2020

Special Guest: Luis Santiago-Rosario⁴, Ecologist

Without salt, we would not survive. Salt has a very important role to play in the environment especially when it comes to animal development. Come learn the value of this mineral with ecologist Luis Santiago-Rosario.