



The California Science Center is pleased to provide special insights to our Members! Here's what's in this issue of *The Nucleus*:

[Meet Dr. Liz!](#)

[Survey: We All Have Questions. Do you Have Answers?](#)

[Stuck at Home Science](#)

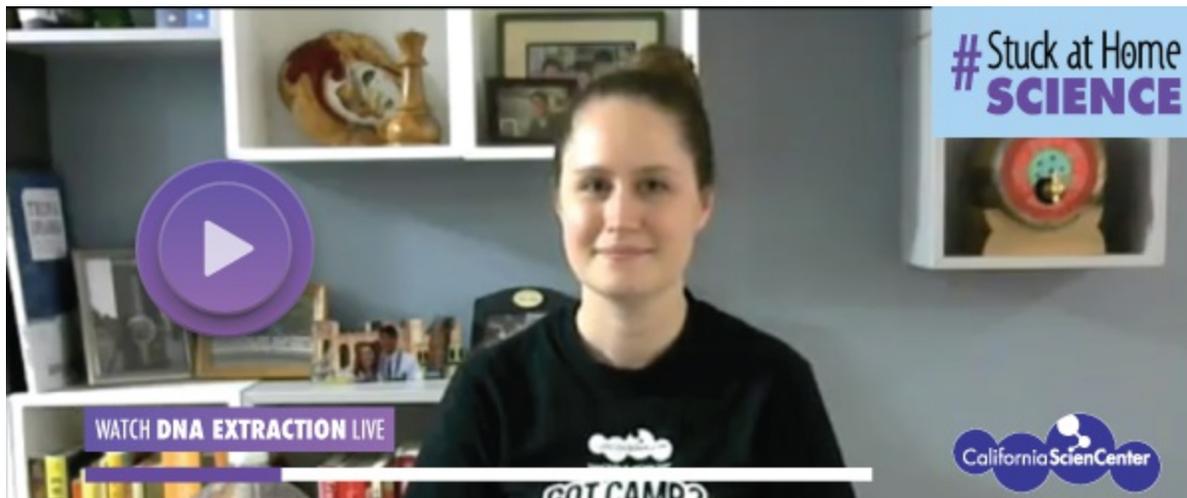
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Members, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe, healthy and continuing to learn. During these challenging times, your vital support enables the California Science Center to continue inspiring science learning in everyone as a trusted educational resource – THANK YOU!

MEET DR. LIZ!



Dr. Liz Roth-Johnson is Curator of Life Sciences at the California Science Center and lead curator for the development of a new exhibit in the Science Center's [World of Life](#) gallery. This exhibit will explore the process of human reproduction in the context of how all living things reproduce.

Dr. Liz received her Ph.D. in molecular biology from the University of California, Los Angeles and a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley in molecular and cell biology and music. The path that led her to the Science Center included a job teaching biology and physiology to undergraduate students at UCLA where she developed a love of teaching science.

While Dr. Liz is the Science Center's newest curator who came on board in January 2020, she already feels at home, is fully engaged and energized.

“The most exciting thing about working on the new *World of Life* exhibit is thinking about how much our guests will enjoy what we are creating when the exhibit opens.”

For Dr. Liz, science is a way for people to understand the world around them, and her childhood experiences have taught her that science learning can take many different forms. She loves how her work as a curator gives her the opportunity to wear many hats and appear in [Stuck at Home Science](#) live stream videos like [Germ Talk](#) and [DNA Extraction](#).

It may surprise you to learn that in her early years, Dr. Liz was not especially taken with science compared to other subjects. In fact, when she first learned about the scientific method in elementary school it did not inspire much excitement. However, she loved watching the Magic School Bus on TV and Ms. Frizzle became her first science “hero.” In fact, it was the science she learned from Ms. Frizzle that saved her during a high school AP Biology exam. Ultimately, it was her high school science teachers and their passion for exploration and discovery that helped her develop her lifelong love of science and encouraged her to pursue a career in molecular biology.

Dr. Liz was attracted by the California Science Center's mission to inspire science learning in

everyone, because it fits perfectly with her own interests of teaching and communicating science to as many people as possible. She is really excited about putting her expertise in molecular biology to use in the first phase of the [World of Life](#) renovation, which will include more recent advances in the biomedical and life sciences. What she finds most gratifying about her work is that guests will have an opportunity to enjoy and learn from the science that she has helped bring to life.

Dr. Liz notes that parents can nurture their child's love of science by encouraging their children to stay curious. Children are naturally inquisitive and want to ask questions about the world – that is what scientists do – and we can all tap into that in our everyday lives. Participating in engaging experiences for you and your children to enjoy together, such as visiting the Science Center or doing [Stuck at Home Science](#) activities are also excellent opportunities.

Dr. Liz is grateful for the support from Members and donors that enables the Science Center to remain general admission-free and create exhibits that fulfill our mission to inspire science learning in everyone.

In the next issue of *The Nucleus* we will meet Evelyn Serrano, Assistant Manager of [Science Live!](#) programming, including live shows and demonstrations that enhance the learning experience of the Science Center's exhibits. Evelyn appears frequently in [Stuck at Home Science](#) live stream videos, such as [Ice Cream Science](#), [Kelp Exploration](#), [Scat: a Poop Story](#) and, coming soon, Oobleck!



SURVEY: WE ALL HAVE QUESTIONS. DO YOU HAVE ANSWERS?



The California Science Center's Exhibit Development team is hard at work creating a new set of exhibits for [World of Life](#) – and we need your help!

We are collecting anonymous stories to develop a new exhibit about reproductive health. We all have questions about our reproductive health, whether it's navigating the rollercoaster of puberty, dealing with the ups and downs of parenthood, or figuring out how and when to start a family. While there's never a single one-size-fits-all solution to these complicated topics, we can still find advice and answers in the stories of those who have already tackled these challenges in their own lives.

By collecting real stories about your experiences,

challenges and successes related to reproductive health, we hope to create a more authentic and meaningful experience for our guests. Because we know how hard it can be to share such personal and potentially sensitive stories, we will be collecting everything anonymously. No names or identifying information will be used in the final exhibit.

Take the Survey

STUCK AT HOME SCIENCE

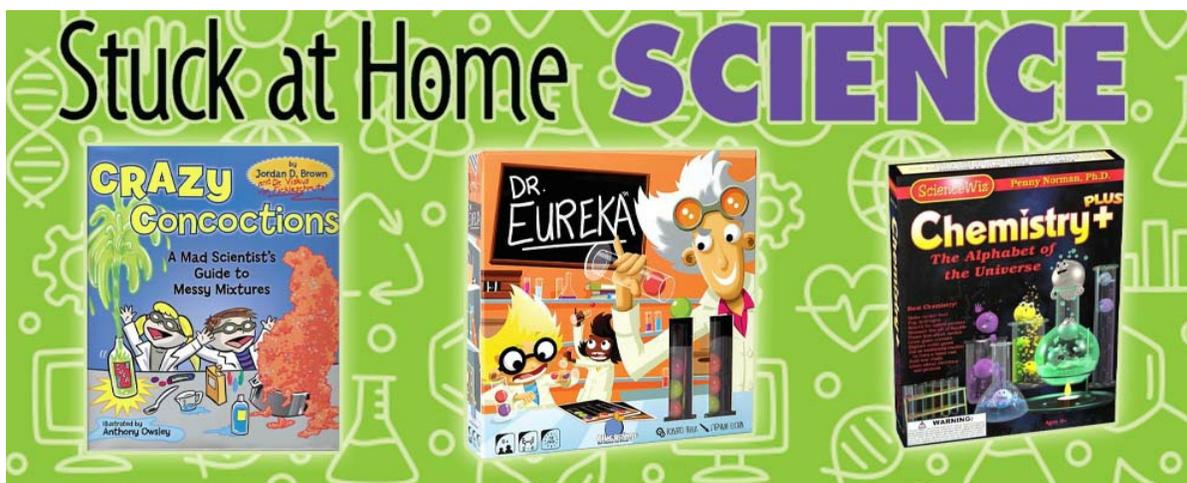


This week in [Stuck at Home Science](#), mix, fizzle, puff and ooze to make a **Chemical Connection** in everyday items, while whipping up batches of puffy paint, oobleck and **more!** New activities are released every weekday at 10:00 a.m. PST. Bookmark the [Stuck at Home Science](#) page for FREE unlimited access to exciting videos and activity guides that are easy to understand and available in both English and Spanish.

[Stuck at Home Science](#), developed in a collaboration of the California Science Center's content experts, educators and professional development team, is an online series of hands-on and age-appropriate science activities using supplies you can find at home. Activities feature videos and downloadable lessons that support the Next Generation Science Standards Science and Engineering Practices. Each week through mid-June covers a themed content goal – such as rocketry, life science, engineering or ecosystems.

Having fun learning with **Stuck at Home Science**? Send photos of you and your family doing the activities to member@californiasciencecenter.org for an opportunity to be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Nucleus* and on our [Member News & Events](#) page.

SPECIAL EXPLORASTORE DISCOUNT FOR MEMBERS



Make science learning at home FUN with our cool [Stuck at Home Science activity kits!](#) Members receive 10% off all web orders throughout the month of May. Use promo code: **MemberMay10** at checkout.

For a limited time, Members will also receive a special 20% discount and free shipping on orders \$25 and over between May 9 – 17 using promo code: **MemberMay20**.

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During these challenging and uncertain times, your support as a Member is critical to our ability to continue serving our community with free online science learning opportunities. Please renew your Membership today in support of our mission to inspire science learning in everyone.

Renew



If your Membership is not due for renewal and you are in a position to make an additional gift, of any amount, we invite your contribution. Your generous support will help sustain California Science Center as a trusted educational resource while we are temporarily closed to the public. Thank you.

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