

## ExWorks Power Chicks Come Home with Trophy from Lego Robotics Competition

On a cold Saturday morning in January the ExWorks Power Chicks arrived at MSU-Bozeman to compete in the First Lego League Robotics Challenge against 37 other teams from across Montana and Wyoming.



Lining up for the competition are: Anna Lund, Emily Felde, Sage Sanchez, Kelsey Kerker, Kasidee Campbell, Jesse Frisbey, MyKaela Edwards, Irene Thamke, Emilee Jones (holding robot), Haley Prothero, and team mascot Bryson Jones.

The team of 10 girls, ranging from 5th through 8th grade, was formed in October with the help of a grant provided by the Women's Foundation of Montana. Coaches Sandy Jones and Liz Gundersen mentored the team as they learned to build and program using the new NXT Lego robotics system. Then they designed strategies to perform "missions" related to the year's theme, Power Puzzle, dealing with the benefits and problems associated with different kinds of energy. In addition, the girls analyzed the ExplorationWorks building with the help of energy-design experts, did research, and wrote a skit addressing energy use in the building.

All the hard work paid off. They placed 10th in the robotics scoring, and they won the first place trophy for Creative Project Presentation. Do they want to do it again next year? "Yes!" answered several excited voices.

## Attention! Inventions and Inventors

The museum is looking ahead to mid-May, when we will change out the current exhibit, "Explore the Air" for something new. The summer exhibit will be about inventing and creating.

Are you an inventor? Or do you know one? Or do you want to be one? We are putting together a team to head up the curating and programming of this fun summer exhibit.

In addition, we are in the beginning processes of planning a great family event. We can't tell you the details just yet, but we can give you a hint: it has to do with bikes and other unmotORIZED vehicles, preferably tricked out or wacked out!

Does this call to your muse? Or would it tickle the fancy of someone you know? Call us! Actually, call Amy at 457-1800 ext. 5.

### RIDDLES:

1.  
Die without me,  
Never thank me.  
Walk right through me,  
Never feel me.  
Always watching,  
Never speaking.  
Always lurking,  
Never seen.

2.  
Voiceless it cries,  
Wingless flutters,  
Toothless bites,  
Mouthless mutters.

3.  
As light as a feather,  
but you can't hold it for ten minutes.

4.  
I saw a creature: his stomach stuck out behind him,  
enormously swollen. A stalwart servant  
waited upon him. What filled up his stomach  
had travelled from far, and flew through his eye  
He does not always die in giving life  
to others, but new strength revives  
in the pit of his stomach; he breathes again.

Answers on page 3.



## ExWorks's own Professor Science TV Show on HCTV!

Don't miss "Kyle's Science" on Channel 11. You are invited to ask Kyle a science question. Twice a week he will answer it on the air. Do you have anything you are curious about and would like Kyle to answer for you?

"Why do rainbows always appear in the same color order?" asked third grader Amy Wolfe last week.

Tune in to Channel 11 for the answer.



### Recruiting Teens for the Roots Gardening Team

ExplorationWorks is looking for five to ten high school students to intern in the Community Garden to be part of the Community Roots Gardening Team this summer.

Interns will help with all aspects of

the garden, including planting, watering, weeding, managing volunteers, teaching students and everything else it takes to make our garden grow!

Interested teens: call Becca at 457-1800, ext. 3, for info, or to apply.

### Open House

ExplorationWorks is hosting an Open House for people who are interested in volunteering at the museum. It will be held Tuesday, March 18.

Stop by any time between 4 and 6 p.m. to discuss opportunities, take a tour of the current exhibit, and meet some new people.

ExplorationWorks! is so grateful to those of you who give the gift of time to us.

## A big 'Thank You' to Fast Enterprises, a major sponsor for "Explore the Air."

Need activities for your kids for Spring Break?  
ExplorationWorks has got 'em!  
Register for a half day, a full day, or even the full week!

See Spring Break programming activities on page 3.

Drop your student (grades 3 through 6) off at ExplorationWorks  
for fun and enriching activities this  
**spring break!**

Register for a half day, a full day, or a full week!

Monday, 3/24

10 a.m. to Noon - Build a house for your own neighborhood bluebirds.

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Dissect a shark (or *Squalus acanthias*).

Tuesday, 3/25

10 a.m. to Noon - Bake a loaf of bread, and learn about the chemical reactions that happen in the process.

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Build a lava lamp to take home.

Wednesday, 3/26

10 a.m. to Noon - Create your own fossils and learn about paleontology.

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Make a volcano, and learn about geologic processes.

Thursday, 3/27

10 a.m. to Noon - Construct a hover craft to take home.

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Build all kinds of paper airplanes and compete to see whose is the best.

Friday, 3/28

10 a.m. to Noon - Build an asteroid and learn to locate and identify constellations.

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Construct a model of our solar system and see just how far away and how big the planets really are.

Cost:

- Morning sessions are \$16 (\$14 for members).
- Afternoon sessions are \$25 (\$22 for members).
- A full day, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., is \$45 (\$40 for members).
- The full week is \$190 (or \$170 for members).  
(Full days include a supervised lunch and exhibit time.  
Bring a sack lunch!)

\*For information about memberships, call 457-1800 ext. 2.

Print registration form from our website: [explorationworks.org](http://explorationworks.org).



## March Calendar

### Saturday Specials in March:

**Saturday, March 8** - 3 p.m. People of all ages are invited to enjoy sharing and learning music and rhythm with local musician David Casey.

**Saturday, March 15** - 3 p.m. See a fairy tale come to life in Little Sky Country with Toni Person and her lovable puppets.

**Saturday, March 22** - 4 p.m. Les and Donna Elford of Creation Arts Center will give instruction on hand-built pottery, tiles and sculpture. Come create something with clay.

**Saturday, March 29** - 4 p.m. Glaze the pieces you created the Saturday before.

They will be fired and returned to ExplorationWorks! for you to pick up the following Saturday.

### Explore After Hours (21 and over, please):

"After Hours" events are \$10 for non-members/\$5 for members (includes adult beverages and snacks)

### **Thursday, March 20 - 7-9 p.m. The Science of Sound with Will Harmon:**

Learn to listen more deeply and appreciate how our brains process sound. Local musician and smart guy will discuss and demonstrate the huge palette of tone and timbre available to the human ear. We'll listen, make noise. Crowd participation is advised.

For more information about ExplorationWorks programs  
call Amy at 457-1800 x 5 or [amys@explorationworks.org](mailto:amys@explorationworks.org)

*Answers to the riddles: 1. air; 2. wind; 3. breath; 4. bellows*