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For Immediate Release
March 22, 2021

Explorations V Children's Museum Partners with Lakeland Water Utilities to Create New Educational Programs

Lakeland, Florida – Lakeland Water Utilities is serving as the subject matter expert and adviser to create a new collection of hands-on educational programs. This is part of a 12-month process of creating evaluating new educational content for Explorations V Children's Museum move to a new facility at Bonnet Springs Park in Spring 2022. The new facility's largest gallery is 7,800 square feet of outdoor learning which will be the first time the 30-year-old children's museum can program nature learning in such a large natural environment.

Programs will be created around a temporary exhibit opening on March 22, 2021, on the children's museum's second floor that will simulate key features of the future outdoor gallery. The best and most impactful programs will be used in the public program schedule at Explorations V's new facility at Bonnet Springs Park. The new exhibit is called "Front Yard Junior". Main experiences include:

- Dig Pit with hidden creatures
- Interactive water cycle wall
- Collaborative outdoor games
- And simulated picnic

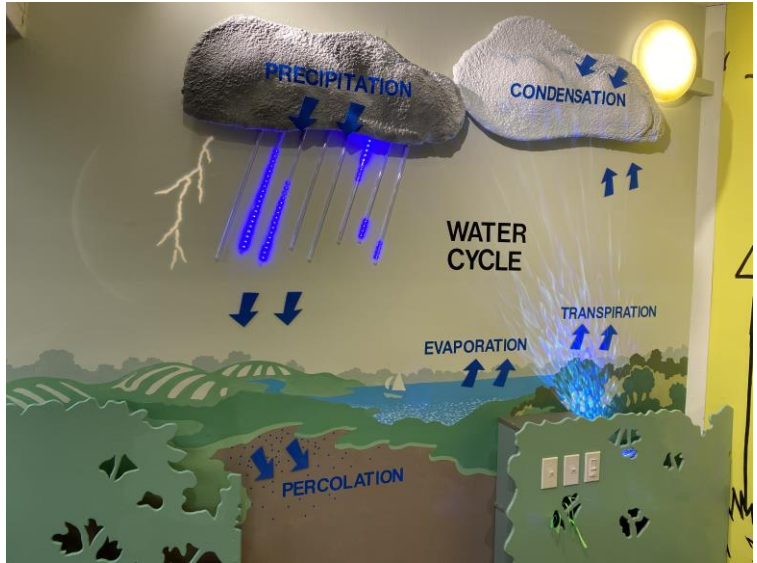
"The goal is to help kids understand the impact they have on the environment when they are enjoying the outdoors," says Kerry Falwell, CEO of Explorations V Children's Museum.

The new exhibit and educational programs are following the Museum's SAFE + KIND guidelines published last year in response to COVID-19. Guests over age 8 are required to wear a mask, a hand washing station is located at the entrance, and social distancing is encouraged between families. Fabric materials are not part of exhibit experiences temporarily and all touchable elements and surfaces are sanitized regularly.

The exhibit will be open until the Museum closes to make the move to Bonnet Springs Park. This will be the last new exhibit to open at the downtown location. In addition to City of Lakeland Water Utilities, additional support for the project is provided by Storm Water Management, State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, and Visit Central Florida.

Explorations V Children's Museum is open Monday through Saturday 10 am – 5 pm and Sundays 10 am – 3 pm. Information about this exhibit, admission, and all Museum programs can be found at ExplorationsV.com or by calling 863-687-3869.

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About Explorations V Children's Museum

Explorations V Children's Museum is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization located in Lakeland, Florida dedicated to curating the world for all children to explore. Explorations V is the only children's museum in Central Florida and partners with schools, colleges, arts & cultural organizations, foundations, government, civic groups, individuals, and corporations like Disney, Publix, United Way, Born Learning, Success by 6 and many others to provide engaging programs. Museum hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sundays; the Museum is closed on major holidays and fully accessible.

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