

Dr. B.'s Science Destinations
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Formerly Mirman School Summer Science

February 15, 2009

Dear Parents:

Today, the demand for learning science and technology is more important than ever. What's just as important is how our students are learning science. Can they relate to the science they are learning, or are they just reading words? Are they developing critical thinking skills, or are they just memorizing formulas? Are they learning how to apply what they have learned, or are they just learning the facts? Can they work collaboratively, or are they working in isolation? These questions need to be addressed, because it's competitive out there in the real world—business and industry are demanding more. Students need to be prepared, and Dr. B.'s Science Destinations has indeed met all of the above goals by instilling the love and passion of science in his students for over twenty years!

Established in 1989, this unique science camp not only instills inspiration, but it empowers and engages 9-14 year old children with diverse, rich resources important toward achieving an understanding of science. In the course of VII sessions, spanning June 22 to August 14, 2008, students pursue their human desire to more fully understand themselves and the world in which they live. With unprecedented access to laboratories, lectures and research facilities at major universities, military research bases, and industrial laboratories, Science Destinations students travel beyond the schoolhouse to the frontiers of scientific exploration.

In over 30,000 kilometers of mind-dazzling travel, **Dr. B's 21st Annual Science Destinations 2009** takes your child into realms of pure scientific delight. Our journeys take us from local laboratories and field sites, to Northern California, to the Galapagos Islands (limited to 19 participants), to Costa Rica (limited to 12 participants), and to Northern California (14 participants). **Students learn about global warming (fact or myth), stem cell research, nanotechnology, seismology, earthquake predictions by leading seismologists, mineralogy, robotics, oceanography, marine biology, ecology, and physiology at cutting edge research facilities. Are all of the earthquakes we are currently having the prelude to the Big One?** They see for themselves what science is all about within the perfect classroom - the working scientist's laboratory. It will be a summer of jam packed activities, observations, discoveries and fun.

The program for 2009 consists of seven sessions.

Session I, local day trips rocks, minerals, experimental hypersonic aircraft, classical demonstrations in physical science and more.

Session II, Local one-day trips, Marine mammal Care Center for recovering and rehabilitating stranded marine mammals, diving physiology, plankton hauls, dredging of Santa Monica Bay, and more,

Session III, Costa Rica, we circumnavigate the country and observe leatherback turtles laying eggs, monkeys, butterfly gardens, hummingbird gardens, bat caves to name a few. From cloud forests to the Caribbean ocean. The wildlife is fantastic. Also students who wish to zipline may do so.

Session IV is all about rocketry. Students build at least three to four rockets of varying skill levels and journey out to the desert to launch them and visit two military base rocket launching facilities. We journey to **Vandenberg Air Force**

Base to tour the launch complexes there as well as go under ground to tour the launch complex of rockets ready for insertion into Earth orbit. We lunch at the Officers' Mess Hall. Edwards Air Force Base will be visited for a behind the scenes look at their rocket launch site and the human factor laboratory with some fantastic demonstrations.

Session V is another 4-day period for local trips to visit industrial labs, such as a soap manufacturing company, a genetics research lab, an engineering company in Orange County that redesigns and engineers Mustangs to new high performance specifications, trip to Malibu for an experience of a lifetime, and more.

Session VI, journey to the Galapagos Islands where we visit eight of the 12 islands, with a special visit to the Darwin Lab. This will be the last year this trip will be offered because of the dramatic changes that are taking place. The costs will go up significantly next year and the year after. Take advantage of this year's trip at a nominal fee. Things are changing dramatically at the Galapagos Islands.

Session VII is to N. California, We travel to San Francisco to the Exploratorium, to The California Academy of Sciences, then to Stanford University and visit the Engineering and Orthopedic Departments, continue our journey to Santa Cruz and visit the Seymour Science Center, visit Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station, visit a great tide pool and observe many of the marine life, travel to Parkfield, California the earthquake capital of the world and visit the famous bridge which straddles the great San Andreas Fault. This is an awesome site to see. Hike along the San Andreas stopping at several of the research sites for a briefing, then head home.

You may enroll in any single session or combination of sessions (see Application). And, **parents, siblings, and grandparents can participate and register for any one of the international trips.**

Dr. B.'s Science Destinations is under the leadership and responsibility of Dr. Richard A Boolootian, who instructs and works with the students during the entire program. He is assisted by qualified teachers and camp counselors who are experienced in working with children of this age. This program has consistently been rated among the nation's best, because we maintain the values of inspiring, engaging, and empowering students that have been at the core of our success for twenty years. Many students, the new generation of scientists, engineers, and mathematicians, are inspired by our program to seek careers in science and technology. It is a well known fact, that science and technology play increasingly greater roles in shaping the world around us. By giving our children a working knowledge and deeper understanding of these subjects, we are giving them the tools with which to shape their future.

Airfare, ground transportation, airport transfers, lodging, park fees, airport taxes, meals, snacks, fees, laboratory materials, departure taxes, rockets, rocket launching supplies and equipment are included in the enrollment fees. Parents are provided in advance with a detailed description for each trip, the names, places and phone numbers of each lodging facility, and the times of departure and return.

If you are interested in this unique science program and want to register your child, please **call (818) 981-3473, FAX (818) 501-7855, or write to Dr. R. Boolootian at 3576 Woodcliff Road, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403 or e-mail: rabassoc@pacbell.net**

Registration is limited, so please respond promptly. An application is enclosed with this letter. A deposit of \$700 guarantees a space for your child. For the summer of 2009, we have organized a powerful, dynamic, exciting and empowering program. Kids who thirst for adventure and discovery will find it an enriching and satisfying experience. **Act now and join Dr. B's Science Destinations for a guided journey to investigation, exploration, and discovery!**

Sincerely yours,

Richard A. Boolootian, Ph.D.

**Go online for links and information
www.sciencedestinations.org**