From the moment we are born, we are curious. We explore our environment, gather ideas about the world around us, and create new theories about how the world works. As we grow, this scientific thinking remains a part of our daily lives, from the way we ask questions and seek answers, to interacting with our environment, and choosing the food we eat.

Exposing children to hands-on science at an early age lays a critical foundation for our next generation of innovators. That foundation is threatened. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has discontinued grant support for their Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) program which funds hands-on science experiences for children at the University of Rochester Medical Center’s Life Science Learning Center (LSLC).

“Imagine” and “can’t” are two words that should not go together. But imagine how many future innovators we may lose if we can’t expose our children to real-life science experiences using authentic equipment, if we can’t encourage children to question, discover, tinker, deduce, and sharpen their critical thinking skills, if we can’t continue to serve more than 10,000 students a year here and throughout the U.S., or provide teachers with support to inspire our next generation of scientists.

“With your help NOW, we can continue to inspire, to make hands-on science relevant, interesting, and fun, in Rochester and throughout the U.S.”
Your Gift Will Help Us Make Science Fun for Students and Teachers Throughout the U.S.

ABOUT THE LSLC

Our facilities include two teaching laboratories that can accommodate up to 48 students per day and are fully equipped with state-of-the-art science equipment and laboratory supplies.

Many of our programs are taught by the University’s renowned scientists who share the excitement for the work they are doing to advance human health. Our curricula are developed with extensive input from master teachers and feature real-life, engaging minds-on and hands-on activities that make science relevant and fun.

LSLC field trip programs provide sixth through twelfth grade students with authentic, hands-on lab experiences and entertaining, exciting science problems to solve. We offer a variety of age-appropriate activities for high school and middle school students on topics ranging from DNA fingerprinting to crime scene investigations to testing the effects of drugs in a model organism, and many more.

OUR LSLC OUTREACH PROGRAMS

In addition to field trips to the LSLC, our scientists also make dozens of visits each year to area schools. We also offer summer and school vacation science camps, and lifelong learning programs out in the community. In addition, we partner with University of Rochester undergraduate and graduate students to offer Science Buddies—after-school science clubs for fifth graders—at more than a dozen elementary schools in the Greater Rochester Area.

We also offer professional development workshops on a wide variety of topics in the biological and life sciences to give teachers experience with cutting-edge science technologies. These hands-on workshops provide innovative instructional materials that align with New York State Math, Science and Technology (MST) standards, as well as National Science Education Standards.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

To find out more about our wide range of funding opportunities, please contact Domenic Argentieri at (585) 276-6347 or domenic.argentieri@rochester.edu. Every gift we receive makes a difference in the programs we provide. Join us to have an impact today.

“Exposure to real science and equipment that we can’t provide at school”