



A major expansion of the Museum of Discovery and Science, the new 34,000-sq.-ft. EcoDiscovery Center, which more than doubles the Museum's current exhibit and program space, offers more dynamic hands-on explorations. Students can try out the Everglades Airboat Adventure, experience hurricane force winds in the Storm Center, dig for fossils alongside a giant prehistoric megalodon, get close to a confrontation between a saber-toothed cat and an Imperial Mammoth, learn about protecting and conserving the Everglades

and Florida's natural resources, and follow the natural path water takes through Florida. Students can explore the physical principles of water while enjoying the playful antics of North American river otters in their two-story indoor/outdoor habitat. The new wing also features the Mangurian Foundation Lifelong Learning Center with four labs and the 100-seat Keller Science Theater with comfortable seating and technical features to support lectures, exciting science demonstrations, and presentations by our community partners.



Otters at Play

Active both day and night, North American river otters have a curious and animated nature, entertaining with a wide variety of sliding, hunting and chasing behaviors. In the new EcoDiscovery Center, the otters will live and play in their own two-story, indoor/outdoor habitat, complete with swimming pool and waterfall. Enjoy the otters' playful world from underwater viewing on the first floor or get a top view from the second floor viewing area.

While entertained by these semi-aquatic mammals, students will learn about the challenges faced by Florida's native animals from human encroachment, invasive species, and other predators. From their whiskers to their webbed feet, these guys and their warm-blooded buddies will educate visitors about what it takes to keep ecosystems vibrant and healthy. Visitors will also learn that otters are very vocal, and communicate with one another using a large variety of calls such as whistles, buzzes, twitters, staccato chuckles and chirps.