

NATIONAL CENTER FOR INTERACTIVE LEARNING

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Education & Outreach Newsletter



Children interacting with the *Bill Nye's Climate Lab* exhibit at the Chabot Space and Science Center.



A family at play in the *Bill Nye's Climate Lab* exhibit.



Bill Nye Climate Lab Receives Prestigious Award

The Chabot Space & Science Center's exhibition *Bill Nye's Climate Lab* received The Roy L. Shafer Leading Edge Award for Visitor Experience from the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC). The ASTC award recognizes exhibitions that significantly advance the mission of all science centers.

Opened in late 2010, BNCL is a 4,100 square foot permanent exhibition designed to increase climate science literacy and engagement in youth ages 8-14. A central element of the project is to extend the cycle of engagement with the visitors' experience with the content, using conservation challenges visitors encounter within the exhibit and then extending those challenges online. The intention is the visitors will not only engage in conservation challenges online, but also return to the exhibit to reengage at Chabot, and finally pursue conservation-related behaviors within their daily lives. Chabot also maintains a Web site for the exhibition at www.BillsClimateLab.org. The site continues the visitor experience at home or in the classroom and was nominated for two Webby Awards.

In 2011 the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation gave Chabot a grant to expand and enhance the exhibition. Kate Haley Goldman, NCIL's Director of Learning Research and Evaluation, is leading remedial, formative, and summative evaluation for *Bill Nye's Climate Lab*. Currently NCIL's work is to evaluate connections between the visitors' experience within the exhibit, on the website afterwards, within their community as they complete climate challenges, and then hopefully as they return to Chabot.

"This study is particularly interesting to us, as it focuses on the extension of the visitors' exhibition experience into the other facets of their lives. Chabot has found the climate challenges to be highly motivating for visitors within the exhibition, and now the team aims to extend that experience through at-home participation. Incorporating game-based rewards systems within these challenges requires extensive visitor feedback to get the balance right, and we're continuing to support Chabot in deepening high-quality visitor interaction." said Haley Goldman.

The Chabot Space & Science Center is located in the hills of Oakland, California. For more information, visit www.chabotspace.org.

Resource for Spanish Speakers

Página Familiar is a full tabloid-sized newspaper page filled with features designed to engage Latino children and families in science. Every two weeks, the page will appear in Spanish-language newspapers across the country. Featuring kid-friendly bios and interviews with Latino

Bill Nye will guide you on a climate mission at www.billsclimatelab.org



An example of the Pagina Familiar page.

scientists, hands-on activities that can be done at home, science cartoons featuring the characters Cientina and Mateo, and fun science stories, the page is published every two weeks by Spanish-language newspapers across the country. The page is also available to science centers, youth and community organizations, and science teachers who wish to use it with Latino students and families. The page is a partnership of the National Center for Interactive Learning, SHARE, Centro Latino Americano les Artes, Ciencia y Educacion, SciGirls en Español, the Lawrence Hall of Science, Maloka Science Center (Bogota, Colombia), and Cienctec (Costa Rica).

The prototype website can now be viewed; the final site will launch in May 2012 "Fully loaded" with content, including an archive of Pagina Familiares. The website will allow newspaper editors to pull stories and photos for their publications, and allow teachers and science center educators access to the Pagina Familiar resource

pulsoglobalnews.com

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Expanding the frontiers of knowledge and understanding

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