



San Diego
Children's
Discovery
Museum

MEDIA ALERT

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San Diego Children's Discovery Museum

Opens New Water Wise Exhibit; Teaches about Water Conservation

WHO/WHAT: San Diego Children's Discovery Museum (SDCDM) announces its newest permanent exhibit, **Water Wise**. Featured elements of the exhibit include two outdoor water tables with simulated Watershed, Aquaponics Garden, Solar Water Rump, Rainwater Harvesting System, and Weather Station.

*****Editor's Note:** Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22 would be a great time to highlight this exhibit!

WHY: Through Water Wise, children will be exposed to ideas such as water conservation, water cycle, solar power and renewable energy, science of natural watersheds, rainwater harvesting, hydrology, fluid dynamics, aquaculture, aquaponic gardening, and environmental science issues.

The interactive nature of the Water Wise exhibit allows children to gain **experiential education** through play-to-learn activities. Additionally, the Museum has put into place a variety of educational programming to teach about Water Conservation and natural water sheds, including a "Be Water Wise Challenge" starting in April 2015.

WHERE: San Diego Children's Discovery Museum, **320 N. Broadway in Escondido**

WHEN: This is a new permanent exhibit. **Museum hours are: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
Please call to share your interest. Thank you!

EXHIBIT DETAILS

- The **Watershed** demonstrates the flow of water through the watershed from the mountains to the ocean and demonstrates how construction and alterations of the natural landscapes affect the natural watershed. Children will use interlocking building blocks to change the "landscape" of the water table and see its affects on the flow of water.
- The **Aquaponics Garden** mimics nature with a living habitat, featuring live plants and fish. This working aquaponics station educates about how aquaponics can be used to farm fish and plants. The "rain" will show the natural watershed in an untouched landscape, demonstrating how our environment would appear without mankind's alterations.
- The **Rainwater Harvesting System** roof structure includes a rainwater catchment, with corresponding education about harvesting rain. The **Weather Station** educates about weather and climate and the **Solar Water Pump** will harvest solar energy to power both the Watershed and the Aquaponics Garden.

ADDT'L MUSEUM BACKGROUND

- The museum has several sustainability practices, including:
 - Making their own natural cleaners;
 - Using 100% recycled paper products in the bathrooms;
 - Composting kitchen scraps and coffee, and also feed them to their chickens;
 - Installed Astroturf in the Children's Discovery Garden;
 - Gift Shop features only local, organic and sustainable products.
- For more on the museum's sustainability practices, please visit: <http://sdcdm.org/sustainability-practices>.

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