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## Sphere We Go! WonderWorks Panama City Beach Unveils New STEM Exhibit Explaining Earth's Spheres

**PANAMA CITY BEACH, Florida – (March 24, 2021)** – Visitors to WonderWorks Panama City can check out a new exhibit focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The new exhibit, which is scheduled to open on April 2, 2021, will focus on the layers of the Earth's spheres.

"We are excited for this new exhibit that will help us to understand the planet more," said Michael Walsingham, general manager of WonderWorks Panama City Beach. "Our mission is to help make learning fun, and this exhibit is one more way we are doing that."

The new exhibit focuses on the four different layers that make up the spheres of Earth. They include the lithosphere (or geosphere), hydrosphere, biosphere, and atmosphere. People will learn about each of the layers, as well as how they interact with one another. A volcano is one way they interact, and the exhibit explains how it happens. In addition to content and images about the layers, there is also a high definition video that visually explains the concept. Plus, there is a 3D hologram exhibit to help enhance the experience (special glasses are not needed).

STEM education, according to the National Inventors Hall of Fame, focuses on teaching children real-world applications that help develop a variety of skill sets. Some of the skills children gain through STEM education include technology literacy, problem solving, creativity, curiosity, critical thinking, and help prepare them for innovation. Finding ways to introduce them to STEM topics in a fun way can help to get them more interested.

"Whether your kids will be exploring the exhibit for fun or to enhance their education, they will not be disappointed," added Walsingham. "We are excited to help people understand more about this planet we call home."

To choose the name for this new exhibit, WonderWorks held a poll asking people to choose from three names. Employees and social media users weighed in, with the following being the outcome of the exhibit name poll: *Sphere We Go!* is the official new name of the exhibit.

- A. Sphere We Go! 51% of the vote
- B. Get Outta Sphere! 38%
- C. Sphere Not These Earthly Layers! 11%

WonderWorks Panama City Beach offers many STEM-related exhibits and activities all year long. There are also demonstrations, activities, virtual learning labs, science fair

partnerships, homeschool days, and more. To get more information about the WonderWorks STEM programs, visit the site at:

https://www.wonderworksonline.com/panama-city-beach/stem-programs/.

WonderWorks has taken new COVID-19 safety protocols to help stop the spread of the virus. It has reduced hours, enhanced cleaning efforts, social distancing measures, employee health screenings, and employee personal protective equipment (PPE). To see a full list of the safety measures in place, visit the site at: https://www.wonderworksonline.com/panama-city-beach/covid-19.

The interactive indoor amusement park offers STEM-focused activities for all ages. There are over 100 hands-on activities that are focused on the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. Some of the exhibits will include a bubble room, Professor Wonder's adventure, interactive sandbox, illusion art gallery, and xtreme 360 bikes. For more information on WonderWorks, visit the site at: <a href="https://www.wonderworksonline.com/panama-city-beach/">https://www.wonderworksonline.com/panama-city-beach/</a>.

## **About WonderWorks**

WonderWorks, a science-focused indoor amusement park, combines education and entertainment. With over 100 hands-on exhibits, there is something unique and challenging for all ages. Feel the power of 74 mph hurricane-force winds in the *Hurricane Shack*. Make life-sized bubbles in the *Bubble Lab*. Experience zero gravity and get the NASA treatment in our *Astronaut Training Gyro*. Nail it by lying on the death-defying *Bed of Nails*. Conquer your fear of heights on our indoor *Glow-In-The-Dark Ropes Course*. WonderWorks has locations in Orlando, Pigeon Forge, Panama City Beach, Myrtle Beach, Syracuse and Branson. For more information, visit WonderWorksonline.com and follow @WonderWorksPCB on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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## Sources:

National Inventors Hall of Fame. What is the Value of STEM education? <a href="https://www.invent.org/blog/trends-stem/value-stem-education">https://www.invent.org/blog/trends-stem/value-stem-education</a>