



Super Science Saturday: The Wonder of Light

WHAT:

In celebration of the International Year of Light 2015 and the Regional Math and Science Center's (RMSC) 25th Anniversary, the RMSC and the Physics Department at GVSU will be hosting *Super Science Saturday: The Wonder of Light*, a science extravaganza for the West Michigan community. This event will provide educational activities and opportunities for students and their families to experience light as it applies to biology, earth science, physics, engineering, technology, history, art, and more! The program will focus on understanding the importance of light in our lives and our future.

WHEN:

Saturday, January 24, 2015 / 10:00 a.m – 4:00 p.m.

WHO:

The audience for this event encompasses the greater GVSU community in West Michigan. Publicity and invitations will include:

- K-12 students, teachers, and parents in Allegan, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Ottawa, and VanBuren counties
- GVSU faculty, students, and alumni
- West Michigan community-at-large

WHY:

The purpose of the event is to highlight GVSU, with particular focus on the significance of light and to provide a quality educational experience for K-12 students. Our intent in providing these kinds of activities is to engage children and families in active scientific investigation as well as showing them the appealing side of science, mathematics, and the arts. Our past Super Science Saturday events were extremely successful drawing approximately 2,500 participants. We have had inquiries from the community asking when we would again be hosting a similar event. The demand is very high in our region for quality experiences for students. This is also the date for GVSU's Sibs and Kids Weekend.

WHERE:

Grand Valley State University, Allendale Campus: Seymour and Esther Padnos Hall of Science, Henry Hall, Loutit Hall, and other appropriate venues.

HOW TO BE INVOLVED:

We are hoping that each department will host 3-5 rooms of activities. The activities can be targeted to a particular grade level of students, or it can be open to all. The activities of your room could have one of two formats:

- **Open Event** – A station(s) set up in a room where individuals could independently partake in the activity or series of activities. An example of this type of activity – “Catch the Wave” – allows students to explore the properties of waves through guided hands-on activities using Slinkies and strings to learn about atomic physics and chemistry.
- **Scheduled Event** – Participants show up at a given time and participate in a group activity for a set period of time. This event may be offered once or repeated several times over the course of the day. An example of this event – “Traveling in Space” – has the instructor presenting the activity to the entire group and assisting them in completing an activity.

For more information on International Year of Light 2015 events, visit www.light2015.org.

If you are interested in participating in Super Science Saturday, please complete the faculty planning form and return it to the RMSC by November 7, 2014. Fax to 616.331.3412 (x13412) or email to mthscctr@gvsu.edu

Funds are being provided by the GVSU Provost's Office, Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Physics Department, and the Regional Math and Science Center.