

# imprints in Science



A newsletter for members  
of Catawba Science Center

September & October 2010

**Stinky feet can make you more attractive** — to a hungry mosquito, that is. Explore the science of what's eating you when ***Attack of the Bloodsuckers!*** invades Carpenter Hall Sept. 18, 2010 — Jan 2, 2011.

Discover the biological wonders of sanguivores — creatures that eat blood — through encounters with live species and interactive exhibits.

We all need food to survive, and animals that eat blood are no different. In fact, most of them manage to leave their prey alive — which is more than most of us can say.

With about 20 grams of protein in every drop, human blood is high-energy fuel for the animals who've adapted to eating it — and they have adapted in some pretty amazing ways.

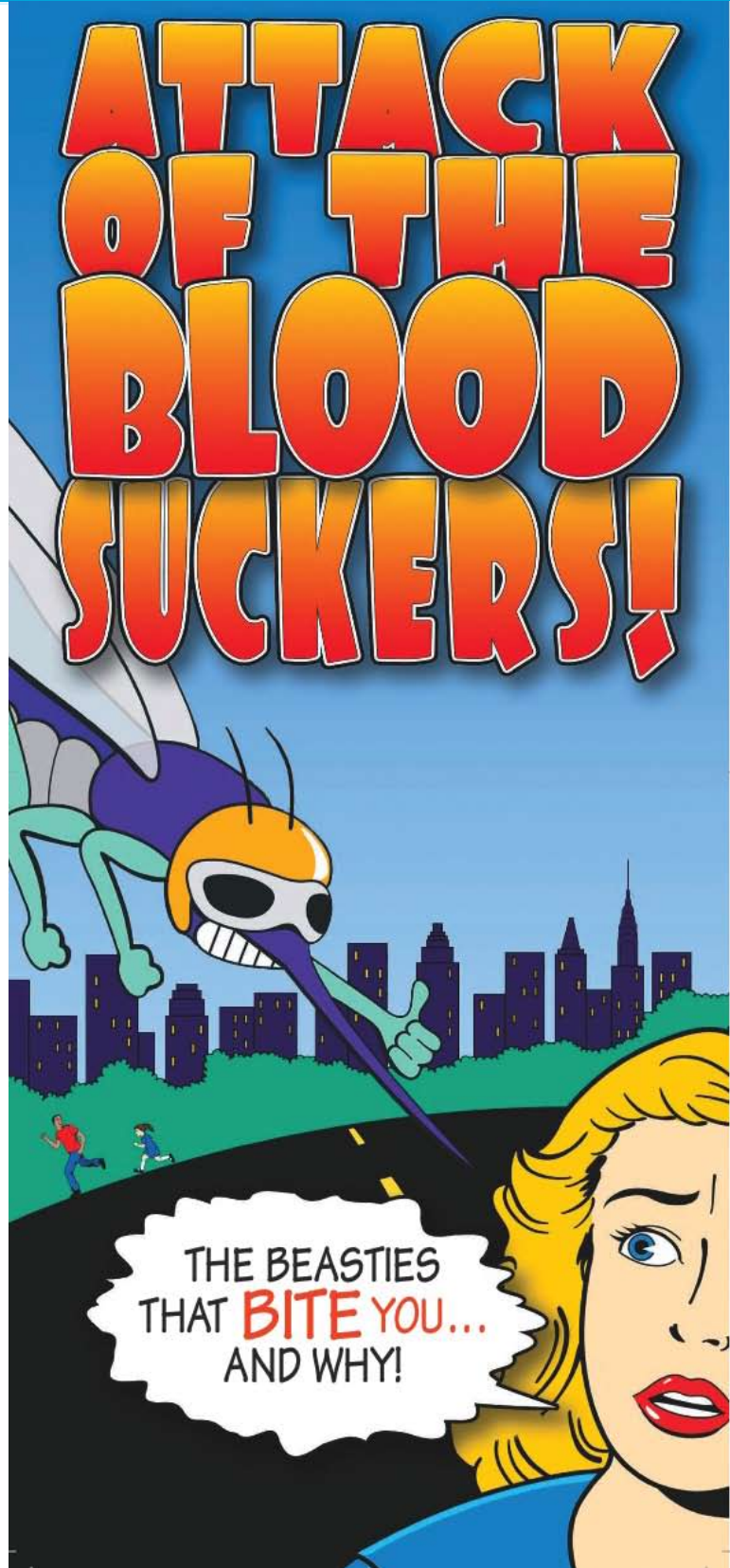
Beyond the Western Piedmont, there are a myriad of other sanguivorous species — from the Amazon Basin to the mountains of Czechoslovakia — each one adapted to feeding in its own unique way.

The Espanola mockingbird, endemic to the Galapagos Islands, feeds on other birds, iguanas, sea lions and the occasional researcher. Brazil boasts the teeny-tiny, but very persistent, vampire fish. Even certain butterflies have a taste for blood.

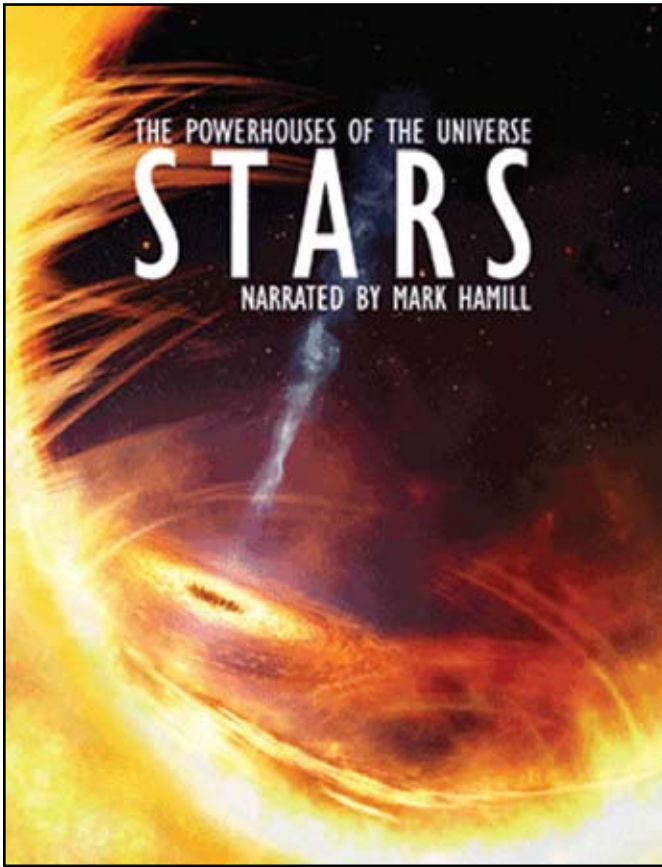
This unusual exhibit features live animals, including some of the most common bloodsuckers — mosquitoes and leeches — as well as other creepy critters, such as vampire tetras, vampire crabs and sabertooth tetras, on display in *Expedition Amazon*, located in the freshwater aquarium gallery.

The incredible biodiversity of bloodsuckers is sure to amaze and impress. While we can't guarantee you'll want to make friends with these critters, you're sure to respect them after experiencing ***Attack of the Bloodsuckers!***

***Attack of the Bloodsuckers!*** is sponsored by von Drehle Corporation, Northwest Area Health Education Center of Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Pepsi, John & Eileen Leach and Greer Labs.



# New features debut on Millholland Planetarium dome



## Experience awesome beauty & destructive power of STARS

Every star has a story. Some are as old as time, faint and almost forgotten. Others burn bright and end their lives in powerful explosions.

New stars are created every day, born of vast gas clouds and dust. Through every phase of their existence, stars release the energy that powers the Universe. Journey to the farthest reaches of our galaxy and experience both the awesome beauty and destructive power of STARS, with public shows starting September 3 in Millholland Planetarium.

The stunning animation highlighted by astronauts, spacecraft, telescopes, nebulas, clusters and more, was created by the talented team of the National Space Centre and features the voice talent of Mark Hamill. The Nashville Symphony Orchestra performed part of the STARS soundtrack.

**STARS is sponsored locally by Dalco Nonwovens and the United Arts Council of Catawba County through the NC Arts Council, with funding from the State of NC and the National Endowment of the Arts.**

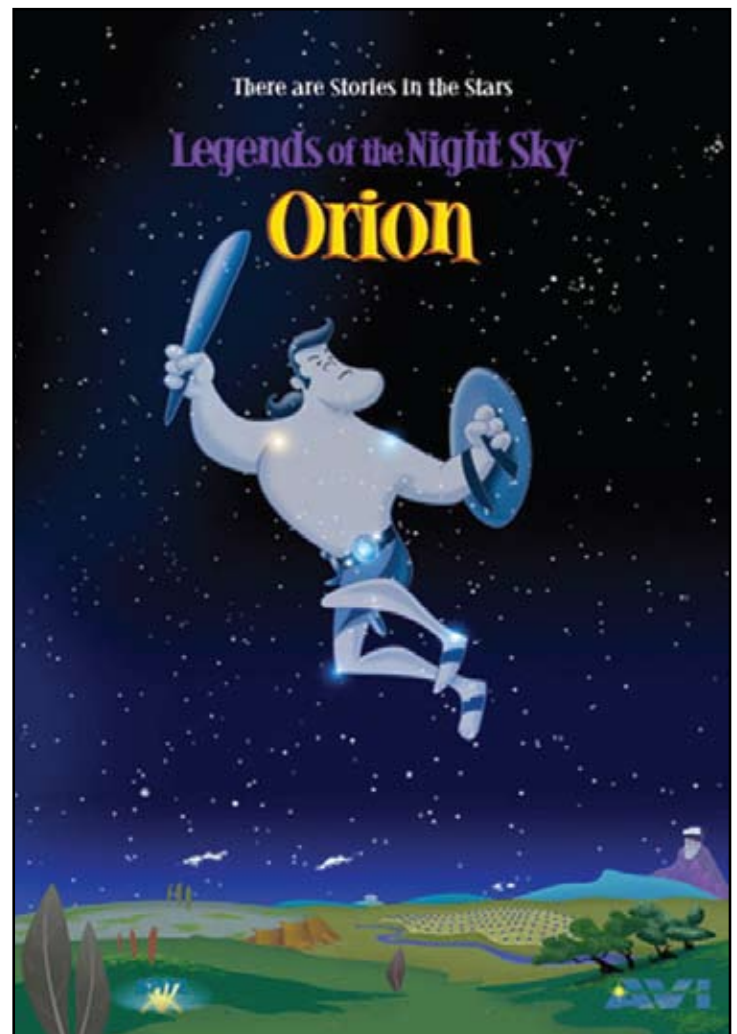
Show times and ticket information at [www.CatawbaScience.org](http://www.CatawbaScience.org).

## Explore the mythic legends of Orion starting October 1

Legends of the Night Sky: Orion offers audiences an imaginative look at the stories and legends of Orion, the great hunter of the winter sky.

It's an ideal show for family audiences and younger viewers, especially when combined with a traditional live astronomy talk, or tour of the night sky, such as Catawba Sky, also showing in Millholland Planetarium.

Show times & ticket information for *Legends of the Night Sky: Orion* and *Catawba Sky* at [www.CatawbaScience.org](http://www.CatawbaScience.org).



# September • October Public Programs

## For Youth



### Misunderstood Creatures

*Attack of Bloodsuckers!* • Carpenter Hall

Discover little known facts about a variety of nature's "misunderstood creatures" during this series of public programs led by CSC's Naturalist Bruce Beerbower. FREE with general admission.

### October 21 • 4 p.m. Bats in Your Belfry?

How big or small are bats? Where do they live and what do they eat? See a variety of mounted specimens and a special audio visual presentation of strange and exotic bats.

### November 18 • 4 p.m. Snakes, Gators & Other Reptiles

Meet numerous live animals from CSC's collection and from other organizations, to learn about the slithery, squirmy and suprisingly non-slimey set.

### December 16 • 4 p.m. Spiders, Scorpions & Kin

Learn about creepy crawlers during this public program highlighting scorpions, spiders and other arthropods. See live and mounted specimens to learn about the unique adaptations of these animals.

### Girl Scout Evening Classes October 5, 7, 14, 19 & 21

Learn about some of the world's least appreciated organisms with hands-on activities and exploration of CSC's new exhibit *Attack of the Bloodsuckers!* Contact [camps@catawbascience.org](mailto:camps@catawbascience.org) for more information.

## For Families

### Monarch & Hawk Watch

October 9 • 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

See monarch butterflies as they wing their way to Mexico for the winter along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Join CSC Naturalist Bruce Beerbower for this amazing day trip. Bring binoculars, picnic lunch, drink and a lawn chair or blanket to relax on a beautiful hillside, overlooking the Blue Ridge Parkway and mountain scenery.

Gently capture and help band Monarch butterflies to track them along their migration route.

Keep an eye out for a variety of hawks — broad-winged, sharp-shinned and others — also migrating south along the Blue Ridge.

**Cost:** \$10 CSC Members  
\$20 Nonmembers

Includes transportation from CSC via van to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Or, drive along in your own vehicle for just \$5 to participate for members, and \$10 for nonmembers.

Call (828) 322-8169 to register and reserve your space today.



Learn more about Monarch Butterflies and their migration route through Western North Carolina at [www.wildwnc.org](http://www.wildwnc.org).

## For Adults



### Stars & Spirits

September 2 • 7 p.m.

Stellar, social evening includes the premiere of *STARS: Powerhouses of the Universe* in Millholland Planetarium.

Evening includes live astronomy talk, highlighting what's in the night sky over the Catawba Valley.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Come early to socialize and explore aquarium exhibits. Planetarium show starts at 8 p.m.

**Cost:** \$8 CSC Members  
\$10 Nonmembers

*Includes complimentary drink token (ages 21+) and light hors d'oeuvres. Beer and wine available with donation.*

*Tickets must be purchased in advance.*

**Call (828) 322-8169 to reserve your seats today.**

### Fright Light October 29

Shows at 7, 8:30 & 10 p.m. Spooky Halloween laser show with songs including Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, Prodigy's *Firestarter*, Blue Oyster Cult's *Godzilla* and more. *Non-messy Halloween costumes are welcome.*

**Tickets:** \$5 CSC Members  
\$8 Nonmembers

**Call (828) 322-8169 today to purchase in advance.**

**Science After Dark is sponsored by 95.7 The Ride, Focus Newspaper & The Best of Beers, LLC.**

# Preschool Science Programs



Catawba Science Center presents another year of engaging, educational programs to **Inspire Young Scientists**.

Preschool science classes — open to children ages 3 to 5 — are held at CSC on select Tuesdays, from 10:30 until 11:15 a.m.

Preschoolers get their hands dirty and their minds piqued by exploring simple science concepts through play, crafts and demonstrations.

**Cost is \$8 per child for CSC members and \$15 per child for nonmembers.** Sign up for the year at a cost of \$58 per child for members and \$116 per child for nonmembers. *Accompanying adults are free.*

Pre-payment and pre-registration are required to reserve your space, which is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

## September 14 African Adventure

Travel the African Savannah and learn all about this continent's beautiful animals. Roar like a lion and run like a cheetah. Students will create their own African Savannah and discover who is living there.

## October 12 Life on the Farm

Learn about farm life and animals as you spend the morning on the farm. Match baby animals to their mothers and identify farm animal sounds. Students will make their own mother and baby farm animal to take home.

## November 9 Healthy Foods

Are you really what you eat? Discover the five food groups and the food pyramid. Learn how eating healthy foods helps you grow, learn and succeed. Students will create their own food pyramid poster to take home.

## December 14 Four Seasons

Winter, spring, summer and fall. Learn how a special Maple tree changes throughout the seasons. Make your own seasonal tree to take home.

## January 11 Simple Machines

What is a gear? How do things move? Find out all about simple machines and how they make everything work. Students will create their own inclined planes by using paper.

## February 8 Fives Senses

Sight, Smell, Sound, Taste and Touch. Discover your five senses through crafts and games. Use your nose to identify different scents. Students will make their own instrument to take home.

## March 8 Wild Weather

Why is it sunny? Why does it rain? How many clouds can you identify? Spend the morning as a meteorologist and give your own weather report. Students will make their own wild weather to take home.

## April 12 Can Kids Help Save the Earth?

Earth superheroes will learn ways to help save the earth and conserve water, land and energy. Learn how to prevent litter and recycle. Students will receive a recycling awareness certificate.

## May 10 Ocean Adventures

Take a dive into the ocean blue and discover amazing sea creatures. Meet some of our own special ocean animals. Students will make their own ocean and sea turtle to take home.

**To register**, mail payment or stop by CSC's office, Monday - Friday, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., or use a credit card to register by phone at (828) 322-8169.

Registration forms can be downloaded at **CatawbaScience.org**.

**The Teen Program is currently accepting applications for year-round volunteers at CSC.**

Teen volunteers help with a wide range of activities including working with visitors, performing animal and science demonstrations, and acting as teaching assistants during Summer Fun science camps.

Teen volunteers are required to commit to a full year of service at CSC. This includes four hours per month during the school year and four weeks during the summer break.

Download a teen volunteer application at [www.CatawbaScience.org](http://www.CatawbaScience.org) on the Volunteers page.

If you have questions, call Emily Kanipe, (828) 322-8169, ext. 315 or email [STEP@catawbascience.org](mailto:STEP@catawbascience.org).

**CSC Teen Volunteers now offer Outreach Programs to local community groups.** Programs are 50 minutes long and are limited to grade school age groups of 30 or less. These Outreach Programs are free.

Contact Emily Kanipe, (828) 322-8169, ext. 315 or email [STEP@catawbascience.org](mailto:STEP@catawbascience.org) for more information and scheduling.



## Celebrate with Science

Choose from several birthday party themes for children: **Earth & Sky Spectacular**, **Seashore Celebration** and **Dino-Mite**.

Pricing & party package info. at (828) 322-8169, or [www.CatawbaScience.org](http://www.CatawbaScience.org).

## July/ August Birthdays

Mary Anderson  
Rylee Baker  
Dakota Cunningham  
Sophia Elliott  
Sophia Grandgenett  
Kate Haskins  
Nicole Higginbotham  
Ayden Hocking  
Alex Hudson  
Leo Hummerich  
Colby Kelley  
Aiden & Colin  
McCroskey  
Lauren Meis

Layla Overcash  
Avery Pittman  
Hannah Porter  
Isabella Queen  
Lauren Reid  
Gavin Robinson  
Marcus Sawyer  
Brandon Sigmon  
Jasmine Spencer  
Bryson Stillion  
Katence Tallent  
Cameron Williams  
Rachel & Abby Wood

## 2009-10 PARTNERS IN SCIENCE

### Aquarium

Brittain Engineering, Inc.  
Hickory Dickory Dock  
Paramount Kia  
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company  
Plastic Packaging Inc.

### Biology/Human Body

Abingdon Glen Village  
Fairfield Inn & Suites Hickory  
Greer Laboratories, Inc.  
Medical Center Pharmacy, Inc.  
Transportation Insight

### Biology/Plants & Animals

Broome Associated Insurance Agency  
Carolina First Associates, LLC  
Cox Manufacturing Company, Inc.  
First Citizens Bank  
Zenith Companies, Inc.

### Biotechnology

Century Services

### Chemistry

Scans, Etc...Inc.

### Earth Science

CommunityOne  
International Paper  
Moss-Marlow Building Co., Inc.

### Environmental Science

von Drehle Corporation  
Whisnant & Company, LLP

### Numbers

Davidson, Holland, Whitesell & Co  
Trailer Sales & Service  
Wachovia

### Preschool

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Baker Furniture, Inc.  
Carolina Tape & Supply Corporation  
Classic Leather, Inc.  
David E. Looper & Company  
Edward Jones-Mike Bell  
Laneventure  
Shabeldeen Engineering, PA  
Shuford Credit Union  
Taylor & Viola, Inc.  
Timmerman Manufacturing, Inc.  
Wachovia

### Physical Science

Benco Steel, Inc.  
Hickory Brands, Inc.  
Hickory Sheet Metal Company  
Hi-Tech Fuses, Inc.  
Sign Systems, Inc.  
United Beverages of NC, LLC

### Space Science

Corporate Management Services  
General Dynamics Satcom Technologies  
Resource Partners, LLC  
Rotary Club of Lake Hickory  
Shuford Yarns, LLC

# CSC Seeks Partners in Science

During the 2009-10 school year, more than 50,000 students from 22 NC counties participated in science education field trip programs at Catawba Science Center.

The **Partners in Science** program allows area businesses and organizations to sponsor one of CSC's science education program areas for an annual contribution of \$1,000. The pledge is payable annually, semi-annually, or quarterly at any time during the 12-month program year.

**Partners in Science** receive the following recognition:

- Annual recognition in CSC's newsletter, distributed to more than 1,900 member households, visitors, corporate members and their employees.
- Recognition in 3,500 Field Trip & Program Guides, distributed through regional school systems.
- Listing on two Partners in Science recognition walls at CSC for one year.

### Interested in being a Partner in Science?

Contact Katherine Jeffords, CSC Director of Development, at 322-8169, ext. 313.

## HELP SAVE FREE FRIDAYS

Since 1996, Catawba Science Center has opened its doors to individuals and families, granting access to hands-on exhibits FREE OF CHARGE on Fridays. This is made possible through the generous support of CSC's Free Friday Sponsors, who underwrite Friday admission costs for individuals and families (*Groups of 10 or more must be scheduled in advance to ensure adequate staffing, regular Group Rates apply*).

In the past two years, CSC has seen a huge jump in the number of people utilizing Free Fridays. **While we are thrilled that more people are visiting CSC, we need your help to keep the Free Friday program alive!**

CSC is actively seeking Free Friday Sponsors for the 2010-11 year. Free Friday Sponsors choose to underwrite costs for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Fridays during even or odd months throughout the year for a contribution of \$2,000. Sponsors can choose to support the 5th Fridays with an \$1,800 contribution.

In addition to recognition in the CSC newsletter and CSC's Sponsor Recognition Walls, Free Friday Sponsors will have their company names and/or logos printed on signs displayed at CSC's three entrances on their respective Fridays, and on free admission passes distributed through outreach and marketing activities throughout the year.

### Interested in becoming a Free Friday Sponsor?

Contact Katherine Jeffords, CSC Director of Development at (828) 322-8169, ext. 313

## CSC Volunteer Guild Plans Welcome Luncheon

The CSC Guild, led by President Crystal Ellis, will kick-off its new year with a **Welcome Luncheon** at Table 220 for current members and those interested in participating.

Guild members plan and coordinate CSC's annual fundraiser. **The 25th Annual Italian Dinner & Auction – Anniversario d'Argento – will be held Saturday, March 19, 2011, 5:30 p.m., at Lake Hickory Country Club.**

Guild members have the opportunity to make new friends while having fun and supporting CSC. Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday, 9:30 to 11 a.m., in the Moretz Board Room, Arts & Science Center, 2nd floor.

### Interested in getting involved in CSC's Guild?

Contact CSC Development Director Katherine Jeffords at (828) 322-8169, ext. 313.

At **Catawba Science Center**  
hands-on learning makes science fun.

In addition to interactive exhibits focusing on physical, natural and earth sciences, CSC boasts a 65-seat **digital planetarium theater** that immerses audiences in 30-foot, full-dome images of the Sun's surface, rings of Saturn, faraway galaxies, black holes and more.

CSC also features a marine touch pool with **LIVE sharks and stingrays**, in addition to other saltwater and freshwater aquarium exhibits that take visitors on an exploratory journey from the Carolina Coast to the Amazon River Basin and other Central & South American habitats.

Catawba Science Center's mission is **to change lives and inspire learning through science and wonder.**

**Catawba Science Center** is a member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers and is funded in part by the United Arts Fund of Catawba County.

**Imprints in Science** is published six times a year and is a benefit of CSC membership.

### Visit CSC

**Tuesday - Friday**

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Saturday**

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Sunday**

1 - 4 p.m.

*Closed to the public on Mondays, except Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Easter Monday, Memorial & Labor Day.*

**Visit Our Web site**

[www.CatawbaScience.org](http://www.CatawbaScience.org)

**Catawba Science Center**

On the SALT Block  
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