# Pacific Science Center And Science on Wheels

Supporting Learning Through Outreach STEM Programs

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## **Pacific Science Center**

Founded in 1962 for the Seattle World's Fair, PacSci's mission is to ignite curiosity in every child and fuel a passion for discovery, experimentation, and critical thinking in all of us.

Each year, PacSci serves over 500,000 guests at our Seattle Center Campus and across Washington through education outreach programs like Science on Wheels, Digital Discovery Workshops, Camps for Curious Minds, and Field Trips.

PacSci works to expand access to science, serve as a vital resource for educators, and fuel discovery and experimentation as a vibrant community laboratory.

### Science on Wheels

- Began during the 1974 U.S. energy crisis
- Field Trips to Pacific Science Center had become financially impractical
- In response, PacSci educators developed an innovative solution bring the Science Center to students!



Computer Van instructors Dave Foss and Conn McQuinn arrive at Lake Forest Park Elementary School early to set up the Northwest's only traveling computer education program. This space age variation of the traditional bookmobile was enthusiastically received throughout the Puget Sound area.



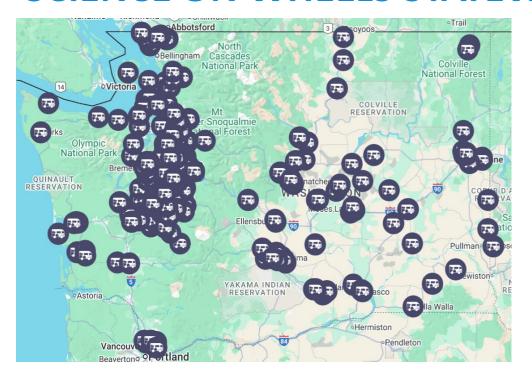
# Science on Wheels

- Over 50 years, the program has evolved many times
- Currently offering: Live science shows, pop-up exhibit sets, classroom workshops
- In 2020 created virtual outreach: Digital Discovery Workshops
- In 2023, Science on Wheels added electric and hybrid vehicles to the fleet





#### SCIENCE ON WHEELS STATEWIDE IMPACT



Science on Wheels is the largest science education outreach program in Washington

During the 2024-2025 Program Year, Science on Wheels and Digital Discovery Workshops served over 114,000 learners across 980 programs in 48 legislative districts, and 120 school districts



#### **Program Impact**

"Coming to a tiny little school, far away from Seattle we were able to give an experience to our kids that wouldn't have otherwise been a possibility.....It was probably the best program we have had at Gold Bar in my seven years of teaching." - Gold Bar Teacher



"We are a small rural school, and many, if not most of our young ones do not have the opportunity or the means to go to the Seattle Science Center. At our school, the science supplies are limited, making the hands-on experiences difficult. Also, the opportunity to go inside a dome planetarium and see how to identify constellations brought those stars and planets front and center for their imaginations to run wild. I feel confident they will never look at the sky the same way after our experience with the Planetarium/Science on Wheels program." - Stephanie S., public-school teacher

Last school year 80% of Science on Wheels programs and 93% of Digital Discovery Workshops were provided for free to low-income communities.

