

National Chemistry Week
Submitted by Kristine Smetana

Event was at the Science Museum of Virginia on Sunday October 20th from 12-4pm.

Energy—Now and Forever! ENERGY! You're using it right now to read this. It gets you to and from school, runs your computer and phone, and cooks your dinner. Did you know that every time you use energy, the energy was produced using a chemical or nuclear process? Some energy is continuously supplied by power plants — different power plants rely on water, coal, uranium, wind, and light. These supply the power to recharge your portable games and light your house. Other types of energy must be carried with us in the form of fuel. For example, cars may run on gasoline, natural gas, ethanol, hydrogen, or a combination of these. Whatever fuel they use, it must be stored in the car's gas tank to make the engine work. In this edition of Celebrating Chemistry, you will learn about some of the ways in which energy is made and what scientists and engineers are doing to supply the world's energy. Some energy sources are renewable, meaning that there can be a constant supply. Many traditional energy sources are non-renewable, meaning that we need to be careful how much we use.

The American Chemical Society's Virginia Section promoted free science activities for about 300+ Children during National Chemistry Week event at the Science Museum. 83 Volunteers included ACS members and faculty and students from John Tyler Community College, J. Sargent Reynolds, students from two area high schools and 4 middles schools. Middle school volunteers were partnered with college students and helped them run the stations. Science kits were given out to teachers who needed resources for their classes. All volunteers also had a chance to explore the museum after the event. The event is FREE to the public!!

This year's newest theme is "Energy-Now and Forever!"

Energy Activities covering all types of energy: Chemical energy, Thermal Energy, Biochemical Energy, Electrical Energy, Solar Energy were made available for the children.

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| -Dinosaur soup (Fossils) | -Owl Pellets | -recycled robots |
| -Volcanic Eruptions | -thermal slime | -heat sensitive materials |
| -generators and motors | - Power a Turbine | -static electricity |
| -"It's Electric" | -glow sticks | -element fingerprinting |
| -solar cars | -Kaleidoscopes | -Food Energy Magnets |
| -slime-putty (flubber) | -bubble machine | -ferromagnetic slime |
| -tornados, snow and fog | -UV light | -weather cycle bracelets |
| -Super elasticity bouncy balls | -Shrinky Dink Cells (Powerhouse mitochondria!) | |