THE W.O.N.D.E.R. CENTER

PARENT GUIDE

The Walton Optimal Neurological Discovery Education and Research Center, Level 1

ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER

Never stop wondering.
Never stop imagining.™

THE W.O.N.D.E.R. CENTER

GALLERY INFO

Located on Level 1, The W.O.N.D.E.R. Center is an exploration of the original supercomputer – the human brain. If you've ever wondered about the brain, here's your chance to examine its anatomy, neuroscience, development, and thought.

Examine our touchable brain model. It simulates the size, weight and texture of a real brain! Compare different types of animal brains and see a human brain in the Brain Museum.

Plus, plan to attend exciting, live science demonstrations in the Daniel Cracchiolo Theater. This stage comes to life daily with scientific demonstrations. From eyeballs to explosions, each demonstration incorporates audience volunteers to roll up their sleeves as they question everything.

QUESTION GUIDE

- Head over to Try Multitasking together. Challenge your child to complete multiple tasks at the same time. How many did they complete? Ask your child why they thought this was challenging.
- Next, throw the ball through the hoop at Retrain Your Brain. After a few throws, put on the goggles and throw a few more. Ask your child how this change affected their aim. Did anything surprise you?
- Did you know the brain is 77-78% water? Over at Touchable Brain, your child can lift a life-sized brain. Discuss if it weighs more or less than they thought. Have your child compare and contrast the human brain to animal brains at the Brain Museum. What do they notice?
- Come to your senses together at the Skin Wall where your child can get a feel for the largest organ. Ask them to find the touch nerves along the wall and discuss what they feel like. Next, discuss your Meissner's and Pacinian Corpuscles. Ask your child how they are being used as they explore.
- Before moving on, Take a Brain Break. Step inside and choose a mindfulness exercise together. Ask, what are 5 things you can see? What are 4 things you can hear? After this neuroscience practice, discuss if you feel any different.