

## Science & Nature Conference

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter

Registration Fee (By Oct. 14 or when filled): \$29

Late Registration Fee (Oct. 15–26): \$39.

**Students and Chaperones Must Register Online: [www.mnscsc.org](http://www.mnscsc.org).**

Click “EVENTS & REGISTRATION”

The planning form below will help students to list session choices before going **online to register**. If a session is full, check its availability for a different time or choose an alternate session. Be sure to keep your e-mail confirmation listing your conference schedule. If you experience a problem with registration or **do not receive a registration confirmation** within 24 hours of registration, please email [mhillmann@mnscsc.org](mailto:mhillmann@mnscsc.org). Please note: You may need to check your spam or junk folder for your confirmation email.

### Online Registration Planning Form

1st choice session: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd choice session: \_\_\_\_\_

3rd choice session: \_\_\_\_\_

4th choice session: \_\_\_\_\_

5th choice session: \_\_\_\_\_

*This is not a valid registration.  
You must register online.*

### Conference Schedule

8 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.	Check-in (Alumni Hall)
9 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.	Opening Program (Alumni Hall)
10:05 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Session 1
11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Lunch (Alumni Hall)
11:35 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Session 2
12:40 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.	Session 3

All students will attend the opening program and then proceed to their three selected sessions. Sessions are handicap accessible. Some sessions may contain latex. Please contact us at [mhillmann@mnscsc.org](mailto:mhillmann@mnscsc.org) to indicate any special requirements at least two weeks prior to the conference.

SCSC reserves the right to add/change sessions or substitute presenters as necessary.



SCSCIENCE & NATURE  
SCSCONFERENCE  
SCSOCTOBER 26, 2021  
GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE, ST. PETER, MN

**SCSC**   
South Central  
Service Cooperative  
Quality Through Cooperation Since 1976

## Special Considerations for 2021:

- Overall attendance as well as session attendance will be limited.
- All attendees must wear masks in all indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status. The only exception will be during lunch when attendees are actively eating or drinking. It is recommended for attendees to dine outdoors if weather permits.
- Do not attend if you have any symptoms of illness including but not limited to: fever, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste/smell, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle aches, extreme tiredness, new severe headache, new congestion/runny nose.
- Be prepared for changes. In the event of changes to federal, state or local guidance, changes to the conference format, delivery method and/or requirements for attendance may be necessary.

## Additional Things to Remember:

- All registrations must be made online. Register early for the sessions of your choice — sessions will be filled and confirmed on a “first come, first serve” basis.
- Registration deadline: Oct. 14 or when filled. Cost: \$29/student.
- Late registration: Oct. 15–26. Cost: \$39/student. Please note, online registration will close Oct. 22. Walk-in registration may be available on Oct. 26 at the conference with limited session availability.
- Schools/families must provide and register their own chaperones. All adult leaders participate in the conference free of charge. Seating may not be available in all sessions. Chaperones may attend sessions as space allows.
- The sessions are located in various buildings on the Gustavus Adolphus Campus. Please dress according to the weather as you will need to travel to different buildings throughout the day.
- Everyone is responsible for bringing their own lunch and beverage. Lunch will not be provided and will not be available for purchase.
- If not paying online, please write Science & Nature and your student’s name on your check memo line to receive proper credit. Mail payment to: South Central Service Cooperative, Attn: Mary Hillmann, 2075 Lookout Drive, North Mankato, MN 56003.

- No refunds for absence. Schools may send a replacement attendee. Please notify SCSC of changes in advance if possible. Refunds will be issued for cancellations made by Oct. 19. No refunds will be issued after this date. Refunds for online payments may be charged a processing fee.
- For registration assistance, please contact Mary Hillmann at [mhillmann@mncsc.org](mailto:mhillmann@mncsc.org) or 507-389-2509.
- For directions to Gustavus Adolphus College and/or parking on campus, please visit [www.mncsc.org/science-nature](http://www.mncsc.org/science-nature).
- As a participant in the Science & Nature Conference, you grant SCSC permission to publish your photos and/or name for promotional purposes.
- By registering, you release, absolve, and hold harmless South Central Service Cooperative, its employees, and agents from any damage resulting from injury or illness incurred while participating in the Science & Nature Conference. You understand South Central Service Cooperative assumes no responsibility before, during or after the program.

## New Registration System:

SCSC has a new registration system! Registration instructions can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3tAmYkw>.

## Sessions for Grades 3–4 (Select three sessions)

### **Floating Magnet Car Fun**

Learn the basics of magnetism and magnetic lift as you assemble your own magnetic levitation car, race it to the finish and take it home!  
*America's Fun Science*

### **Identify, Imagine, Invent**

Students will be challenged to change the way they look at the world. Think and problem-solve like an inventor as we identify problems, brainstorm solutions and design inventions. Students will have the option to brainstorm together in groups or individually, but everyone will get to draw up their own blueprints and build their own prototype out of everyday items.  
*Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota*

### **Phun Physics**

Be informed and wowed by the wonder of the everyday world in the areas of light, sound, heat and energy.  
*Gustavus Adolphus College Physics Club*

### **Animals Nobody Loves**

It's slimy! It's gross! It's dirty! Some Minnesota animals have reputations they do not deserve. We will investigate why some animals are considered "unlovable" including snakes, spiders, skunks, porcupines and owls – oh my! Live animals will join us for this presentation.  
*Bob Ebsen, Wildlife Science Center*

### **Learn Science by Doing Science!**

Roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty! Through exciting hands-on experiments this session will activate your curiosity and expand your imagination.  
*High Touch High Tech of the Twin Cities*

### **Super Circuits**

Experiment with the components of simple circuits – power, loads and switches. Construct and wire a motor-powered fan to take home!  
*The Works Museum*

### **Ecosystem Exploration**

Join us as we "travel" through Minnesota's biomes and discover the relationships among plants and animals within each environment. Through participation, games and live-animal observations, engage with Bell Museum educators to gain a better understanding of local ecosystems. Learn some fascinating ways that animals have adapted to survive in their environments, hear from University of Minnesota researchers and leave the session with ways you can make positive effects on ecosystems near you.  
*Bell Museum Scientists*

### **Mysteries of the Minnesota River Valley**

Freshwater lamprey? Mooneye fish? What's your dish?! We'll have specimens, artifacts, historical items and stories galore to share the "secrets" of some of the critters common to, but often unnoticed, in the Minnesota River sandbars and mudflats. Hear about the discovery of a woolly mammoth femur right here in the Minnesota River Valley!  
*Art and Barb Straub, Retired Educators and Master Naturalists*

### **Make the Stars Your Old Friends**

Get to know the universe that is available every clear night from your backyard. Learn how to find constellations and the legendary and fun stories about them. Discover what you see with binoculars, a small telescope and just your unaided eyes. A giant telescope will be available for "landgazing."  
*Michael Lynch, Astronomy/Starwatch Educator*

### **Sensational Slime and Not so Slimy Snakes**

Science allows us to explore extremes, similarities and differences. Experience the tactile joy of stupendously stretchy slime and be amazed that the skin of snakes and reptiles are not slimy at all. In this session we will dig into science by making slime, learning its relationships to everyday polymers and still have enough time for a fun project about snakes and reptiles from your back yard to across the world!  
*Melanie Schmidt, Mankato Community Education & Recreation*

### **The Remarkable Reptiles**

Learn about all five groups of living reptiles, including all three of Minnesota's threatened species. This fast-paced, lively program includes turtles, lizards, snakes and more!  
*James E. Gerholdt, Remarkable Reptiles*

### **The Bug Show: Close Encounters with Insects and their Relatives**

The Bug Show is a unique, hands-on session where you can examine and handle an assortment of live and preserved arthropods. Use as many of your senses as you feel comfortable to learn about the mysterious world of bugs! See some of the weirdest, wackiest bugs ever! Hear funny stories about bugs and learn about the many unique (and comical) ways insects protect themselves. A special bug snack will be available...if you're willing to use your sense of taste!  
*Dr. Bruce Giebink, aka Bruce the Bug Guy, The Bug Zone, LLC*

### **Become a Birdbrain Like Me**

Use your birdbrain and your imagination to design and name a bird while you learn about birds.  
*Al Batt, Writer, Speaker, Storyteller and Humorist*

## Sessions for Grades 5–6 (Select three sessions)

### **It's Not Magic, It's Science**

Join wacky professor Jerry Wenzel as he demonstrates science concepts in a fun and easy to understand way. You will be amazed at what appears to be magic but is really science. This will be an unforgettable science learning experience that will have you asking for more. Who knows, he may even shrink wrap you!

*Jerry Wenzel, Science Magic Programs*

### **Stream Flow Fun**

Come learn all about how streams move and change! Experience the hands-on learning of a stream table to investigate how stream channel and watershed landscape changes affect stream flow, water quality and stream biology.

*Minnesota Pollution Control Agency*

### **Phun Physics**

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*Gustavus Adolphus College Physics Club*

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