



# Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

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## **GECKO, CHINCHILLA, SPRING CONSTELLATIONS AND AN ALL FREE ASTRONOMY DAY FILL MAY CALENDAR AT LAKE ERIE NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER**

Bay Village, Ohio --- Lake Erie Nature & Science Center will feature a lizard known for TV commercial pitches and the world's softest animal during free wildlife programs in the month of May. Astronomy Day and Spring Constellations also join the May roster of engaging programs at the Center's Walter R. Schuele Planetarium.

Come nose to nose with a Leopard Gecko at the May 10 Meet An Animal program, presented by Wildlife Director, Dave Wolf. This colorful creature is becoming more common in the pet trade. Learn about the Gecko's skin, its predatory behavior, its tongue, and why some are tail-less. During the May 24 Meet An Animal presentation, you can run your fingers across the incredibly soft fur of a chinchilla. Both family friendly, live animal programs begin at 3 p.m.

On Astronomy Day, Saturday, May 10, the Schuele Planetarium will provide its popular astronomy programs for free! (Seating is limited.) Astronomy Day will also feature space crafts, a comet-making demonstration, an interactive Telescope Tips workshop and telescope viewing day and night (weather permitting), plus, EVA the Inflatable Astronaut and a NASA talk on *Project Orion*.

The topic for May's Monthly Skyquest planetarium programs is Spring Constellations. Monthly Skyquest is offered at 2 p.m. every Saturday and at 7 p.m. on the first and third Saturdays (May 3 and 17). Free telescope viewing follows the evening star shows, weather permitting.

The Center's popular Twinkle Tots star shows for the very youngest budding astronomers in the family returns to its 11 a.m. Thursday start time on May 29. The planetarium also kicks off a limited engagement Laser Light Spectacular series in late May. Watch for more information coming soon!

The non-profit Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is located at 28728 Wolf Road in Bay Village. Call (440) 871-2900 or log on to [www.lensc.org](http://www.lensc.org) for more information on Meet An Animal, Astronomy Day, Laser Lights and other fun family programs.

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## May Programs at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

### Leopard Gecko

**May 10 at 3 p.m.**

This colorful creature is becoming more common in the pet trade. Wildlife Director Dave Wolf will talk about its skin, its predatory behavior, its tongue, and why you might see a tail-less gecko. You'll learn more about this lizard's fascinating life while enjoying a nose-to-nose look at it.

**Free family program**

### The Chinchilla

**May 24 at 3 p.m.**

They're more than just coats! Come and visit with one of our most favorite classroom animals. Young and old alike will enjoy learning more about this fascinating animal. This is the most popular animal for children *and* adults to touch because it's the softest animal in the world! Find out what makes its fur so velvety soft.

**Free family program**

## Schuele Planetarium in May:

### Astronomy Day

**Saturday, May 10**

**All day, various times**

Free Schuele Planetarium star shows all day (first-come, first-served), space crafts, Comet-making demonstration, interactive Telescope Tips workshop and telescope viewing, weather permitting. Plus, a morning appearance by EVA the Inflatable Astronaut and an afternoon NASA talk on *Project Orion*.

**Free family program**

### Monthly Skyquest: Spring Constellations

**Every Saturday in May (3\*, 10\*\*, 17\*, 24, 31 at 2 p.m.**

**First and Third Saturdays in May (3 and 17) also at 7 p.m.,** \*followed by telescope viewing, weather permitting; \*\*Special evening Skyquest and Moon Presentation at 7 p.m. on Astronomy Day, May 10  
What do flowers, Leo, Virgo & Libra all have in common? You can see them all in spring!! This is a great time to start looking up, finding Big Dipper, North Star as well as Mars closing in on a Bee-Hive!

**Fee: 2 p.m. - \$2/person**

**7 p.m. - \$3/person**

### Twinkle Tots

**Thursdays at 11:45 a.m. (Returns to 11 a.m. start time on May 29!)**

**Saturdays at 11 a.m.**

This is a program for the toddler in your family. See what's new in space, watch lights dance, and see some magic. This program is fun for everyone in the family! *Door closes promptly at program start time.*

**Fee: \$1/person, including infants**

### Stellar Stars

**Wednesdays at 11 a.m.**

**Saturdays at Noon**

Every week, you and your little one will "blast-off" to a new planet and constellation during this interactive show. Marvel at the night sky and lasers moving to music. Learn fun facts about the solar system. Great for children 2 years and up!

**Fee: \$2/child**

### Backyard Astronomy

**Saturdays at 1 p.m.**

Explore the night sky from your very own backyard! Join us as we view celestial objects in the current sky.

**Fee: \$2/person**

### "Skylase" Laser Light Spectacular

**Limited engagement starts Saturday, May 24.**

A spectacular blend of shape-shifting laser lights, engaging music and night sky folklore inside the Walter R. Schuele Planetarium. Stunning laser and music programs powered by a Skylase "Audio Visual Imagineering" system. Features a fun catalogue of music from the Beatles to the B52's.