

Tinkering for Tots

Inspire big dreams from your little innovators.

► GREENFIELD VILLAGE®

Little learners get a head full of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) with our hands-on program. Designed for curious preschoolers, our inspired yet playful activities focus on themed materials and then expand outward with storytelling, crafting, building and artifact exploration.



AUGUST 14, 2017
10 A.M. - NOON

↓ Riding on Rubber

Discover where rubber comes from and how this amazing material is used to make everything from tires to toys, elastic bands to gloves. Explore how Thomas Edison and other innovators worked on ways to make a rubber substitute. While traveling today, look closely at a Model T or the village bike riders' historic bikes, and you'll discover that people are riding on rubber. Today's activities will keep you bouncing.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

1. What is rubber?

Fort Myers Laboratory

Rubber is a natural material, but it took inspired ideas to make it a useful material. Innovators like Thomas Edison also experimented with creating man-made rubber. Discover more about these experiments at Edison's Fort Myers Laboratory.

2. Rubber at work: How versatile is this material?

Bagley Avenue Workshop, next to Ford Motor Company
Wright Cycle Shop, Main Street

Visit Henry Ford's Bagley Avenue Workshop to see what Ford used to get his Quadricycle rolling, then compare the tires to the ones you find for sale in the window of the Wright Cycle Shop. Does it surprise you that Henry Ford's first car rode on bike tires?

3. Try making music with rubber

Village Pavilion, Main Street

Can rubber make sound? Discover the answer and make your own rubber band guitar.

4. Test the qualities of rubber

Kosch Village Playground

Rubber can be hard or soft, strong and stretchy. Visit the Kosch Village Playground, and check out the rubber surface you play on. Then put rubber to the test. See how different rubber balls bounce. Do solid rubber or air-filled rubber balls bounce higher?

5. Inspiring stories

Across from J.R. Jones General Store

Join our storyteller, who will read stories to inspire your tinkering tot. Today we focus on *Bouncy Tires* and *Ada Twist, Scientist*.

ARTIFACT OF THE DAY

6. Tires at Ford Motor Company

In 1906, Harvey Firestone sold 2,000 sets of tires to Henry Ford for his automobiles — at the time, the world's largest order of rubber automobile tires. Cruise over to Ford Motor Company to check them out, but don't kick the historic tires.

NEXT MONTH

September 11

Natural materials

Celebrate the harvest season as we explore natural materials that we grow, gather, and use to make and decorate useful objects.

