Outreach Programs

at the David H. Koch Institute
for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT

Workshops and laboratory visits for students grades 7-12
Experience Cancer Research

At the Koch Institute, student groups have the opportunity to visit cutting-edge labs, interact with young scientists and learn firsthand what it means to do cancer research in the 21st century.

Researchers introduce students to the biomedical problems they try to solve, the tools they use, and the day-to-day life of a scientist. Previous topics include:

- Engineered devices for detecting cancer
- Particles for targeted cancer treatment
- Genomics and genetics of cancer
- Understanding how cancer spreads
Hands-On Activities

Students visiting the Koch Institute can step into the shoes of a scientist or engineer to explore cancer research through hands-on classroom activities developed by our own cancer experts.

Activities include:

• Weighing Single Cells: The Suspended Microchannel Resonator
• How Can Seaweed Help Treat Colon Cancer?
School visits also include a guided tour of the Koch Institute Public Galleries. Students can glimpse tiny biological features through our gallery of large-scale images; explore interactive video exhibits focused on recent advances in cancer research; and hear the stories of cancer researchers and patients in their own words on our video wall.

Learn more about the Galleries at http://ki-galleries.mit.edu
Visits to the Koch Institute can optionally be paired with other activities at MIT, including the LEGO DNA workshops developed by the MIT Center for Environmental Health Sciences. These workshops use interactive tools, videos and unique LEGO DNA Kits to help participants obtain an intuitive understanding of how DNA directs the assembly of proteins and how environmental agents can affect DNA and human health.

LEGO DNA workshops take place at the MIT Museum (http://web.mit.edu/museum/) and last 2.5 hours. Groups who combine the workshops with the Koch Institute’s outreach programs gain hands-on lessons in both fundamental biology concepts and the application of those concepts to real-world problems.

The cost of one LEGO DNA workshop is $200, but this cost can be waived for qualified school groups.

Learn more about the workshops at: http://cehs.mit.edu/COEP/youth_programs.html
Schedule a Visit

To schedule a free trip to the Koch Institute for your school group, contact us at:
Phone: 617-324-2291
Email: kigalleries@mit.edu

School visits to the Koch Institute last 90 minutes and are open to groups of up to 50 students at a time. Visits can only be accommodated during the Koch Institute’s regular business hours, M-F 9AM-5PM. Our capacity is limited, so contact us early to ensure you can reserve a spot.

Combined Koch Institute and LEGO DNA workshops last from 9:30AM-1:30PM, including a break for lunch (school groups should bring their own lunches). These times can be adjusted slightly depending on each group’s transportation needs.

The Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT is located at:
500 Main Street
Cambridge, MA

Learn more at http://ki.mit.edu.