



## For Immediate Release

*May 24, 2006, Oak Hammock Marsh, Man.,* - Imagine digging up dinosaur bones, swimming with dolphins, and the out-of-this-world experience of leaving your shuttle for a spacewalk. Now, imagine that you can do this - with just the click of a button.

All of these experiences –interactive, computerized versions of them – are now available at the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre through a new exhibit, ***TryScience Around the World***. The TryScience Around the World Kiosk network, companion to the TryScience website, provides an engaging, educational hands-on exhibit for visitors to the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. With the unveiling of the Kiosk today, the Interpretive Centre joins hundreds of science-technology centres from around the world who are teaming up to share science, learning, and fun.

TryScience, a virtual science museum, was developed through a collaboration of IBM, the New York Hall of Science, and the more than 600 member institutions of the Association of Science-Technology Centers. The TryScience web site ([www.tryscience.org](http://www.tryscience.org)) offers a new way for children, their parents, and teachers to gain access to and experience the fun of science from museums around the world through interactive exhibits and multimedia adventures. Features of TryScience.org include science experiments that can be conducted on- and off-line, field trips to science museums, scientific news updates and real-time live video cameras.

IBM's sponsorship of Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre includes the new interactive TryScience Around the World kiosk, live webcam capabilities and an additional computer-based exhibit dedicated to recording and reporting bird sightings at the marsh. A variety of IBM-sponsored technology upgrades and computer equipment are also being implemented at the Interpretive Centre and within its outreach programs. The TryScience Around the World Kiosk and Bird Sightings Kiosk at Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre are now open to the public.

"The future belongs to those who will understand and use science and technology in ways that we can only imagine today," said Loren Cisyk, IBM's general manager for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Northwest Ontario.

"TryScience offers a new resource to stimulate the minds of the future by

presenting interesting science in ways that invite exploration. We are proud to partner with the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre on this innovative project.”

Staff at the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre are equally enthusiastic about the new exhibits.

“This technology is cool for kids and adults alike – even our Interpreters are having fun with the TryScience kiosk!” said Michele Kading, Head of Interpretation, Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. “TryScience builds a cutting-edge, multi-lingual aspect into the engaging wetland-science learning programs that we strive to deliver everyday. We are happy that we could share our philosophy with IBM and TryScience to develop a new way to connect with our visitors and share the importance of wetlands with those who may not be able to visit the Centre in person.”

Located just 20 minutes north of Winnipeg, the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, a joint venture of Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Province of Manitoba, fosters public awareness and knowledge of the inherent values of wetlands and their associated ecosystems and encourages support for their conservation through innovative education and outreach programs.

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