

QATAR FOUNDATION WRAPS UP ‘SUMMER OF LEARNING’

School children enjoy QF’s STEM-based summer sessions

Digging up fossils, travelling back in time to a pre-historic age, and cooking up ‘edible science’ dishes were just some of the exciting activities enjoyed by the young participants in Qatar Foundation’s (QF) ‘Summer of Learning’ program.

The fun-filled sessions were held at the Education City Club House from August 12-15, as part of QF’s efforts to offer young members of the community an engaging, educational, and entertaining way of spending their summer holidays.

The theme for this year’s program, open to children between the ages of 4 and 12, revolved around science, with a variety of experiential activities based around Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) being organized for different abilities and aptitude. The sessions introduced participants to science through tasks such as cooking, circuit-building, and architecture-based designing.

Mr. Khalid M. Zaghmout, Event Logistics and Support Supervisor, Community Services, QF, said: “Community development is at the core of all our efforts at QF, and this year’s exciting array of ‘Summer of Learning’ events reflect our commitment to fostering a socially-engaged and responsive society.

“Each year, this program offers innovative ways for members of the wider community in Qatar to enhance their mental and physical well-being. Children who attended the sessions were able to pick up science-based skills in an environment that encouraged curiosity and interactive learning.”

Over 30 students signed up for QF’s ‘Summer of Learning’ camp this year, with sessions such as ‘Dino Daze’ and ‘Edible Science’ proving popular, and each afternoon during the program seeing children trying their hand at making their own fossils, modeling putty into designs, and conducting basic chemistry experiments.

One of the parents of ‘Summer of Learning’ participants, Maha Yafie, said she had heard of QF’s educational programs for the community, and wanted her children to learn about science in a more interactive manner.

“The programs are perfectly suited for my children’s age group and help them make the most of their summer holidays by offering activities where they can learn something exciting each afternoon,” she said.

Another parent, Antony D’Souza, who made a round trip of almost 40km to bring his two children to the camp, said ‘Summer of Learning’ made the journey well worthwhile.



“Qatar Foundation’s ‘Summer of Learning’ program is an example of out-of-the-box thinking, such as through a session called Sparky Monday,” he said. “My son learns about electricity in his class at school, but mostly from a book. At ‘Summer of Learning’, circuits and batteries were laid out for him to observe, and at the end of the session he couldn’t stop talking about it.”

The third edition of ‘Summer of Learning’ was one of the many student-focused QF initiatives held across Education City over the summer months. The full range of events, aimed at participants between the ages of 4 to 16, included the opportunity for primary and middle school students to join STEM-related sessions, while high school students got a taste of university life through a range of programs at QF partner universities.

On August 23, QF will host its Eid Al Adha celebrations at the Education City Club House, showcasing Qatari traditions such as henna tattoo and arts and crafts, and inviting the community to enjoy traditional food, before welcoming students back to Education City for the start of the new academic year in September.

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Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, science and research, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF’s world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation’s development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF’s initiatives and projects, visit www.qf.org.qa