

Keep kids busy in Ontario this March Break

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Student KC van Goozen, of College Boreal, sits in the mouth of a model of a Titanoboa snake featured in a new exhibit at Science North in Sudbury, Ont. The snake, which is the largest one ever known, is part of The Science of Ripley's Believe It or Not!, a joint production of Science North and Ripley Entertainment Inc. JOHN LAPPA/QMI AGENCY

Madness may ensue once the kids break out of school March 8 for their annual spring holiday. Here are a few family fun March Break events throughout Ontario to keep them -- and you -- from going completely bonkers:

BELIEVE IT NOT

Explore the science behind the unbelievable at Science North's new exhibit, The Science of Ripley's Believe It or Not! The Sudbury science centre is linked with Dynamic Earth, which is also featuring its new exhibit through March Break -- Dinosaurs Unearthed: Secrets Revealed. See sciencenorth.ca.

DOWNTON ABBEY, KID-STYLE

Hamilton's Dundurn Castle will rival TV's popular Downton Abbey through March Break, with the drama unfolding in the former home of Sir Allan Napier MacNab, one of Canada's first premiers. Kids are invited to peek into the upstairs/downstairs world of aristocrats and servants. See hamilton.ca/museums.

GALLERY INVASION

Instead of a Night at the Museum, it's a day at the art gallery. Children are set free to explore the Art Gallery of Hamilton during March Break Mania, a camp held March 11-15. Hands-on art creation is also on the agenda. See artgalleryofhamilton.com.

MAGIC PASS

Niagara Falls spreads a little magic with its Winter Magic Pass, a three-in-one entrance pass for Journey Behind the Falls, Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory and the 4-D Niagara's Fury: The Creation of the Falls. See niagaraparks.com.

SCENIC SNOWSHOEING

Scenic Caves Nature Adventures near Collingwood is organizing family friendly March Break snowshoe treks across Ontario's longest suspension bridge. See sceniccaves.com.

SKI, OR NOT

Blue Mountain Resort near Collingwood is offering discounted lift tickets through March Break. After skiing -- or instead of skiing -- have some family fun in Blue Mountain Village with scavenger hunts, face painting, concerts, fireworks and wagon rides. See bluemountain.ca.

ELEMENTARY MY DEAR ...

Help Victorian detective Sherlock Holmes search for timely clues during Black Creek Pioneer Village's March Break program, Mystery of Sherlock Holmes and the Clock Maker. Spring break at the Toronto attraction also includes horse-drawn wagon rides and a live puppet show. See blackcreek.ca.

Will your family travel this March Break?

We'll stay in Canada

We'll head to the States

We're off to the sunny south

We are staying home

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DINO WARS

Pioneer Energy's Battle of the Titans is on at Burlington's Royal Botanical Gardens through the school break. The titans in this case are dinosaurs. Discover more about the ecology, organisms and environment in which they lived all those years ago. See rbg.ca.

FLY AWAY WITH ME

Ottawa's Canada Aviation Museum tours kids through what it expects will be the next 100 years of aviation as part of its March Break program until March 17. Crafts and scavenger hunts are also part of the flight plan. See aviation.technomuses.ca.

NEED TO KNOW

For more March Break ideas in Ontario, see ontariotravel.net.

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