



Welcome to the Hardware Science newsletter update where you will receive notes quarterly from the Wizard, program updates, and news about Hardware Science in the community. For more information on any topics below, please reach out to us at [HardwareScience@acehardware.com](mailto:HardwareScience@acehardware.com) or visit our recently redesigned corner on Acenet in Manage My Store/ Promotions & Marketing/ Local/ Hardware Science. Use this email address also to be added or canceled from the distribution list.

## **A Message from Wizard IV**

As summer approaches, the planting and growing season will be in full “bloom.” There is a near endless array of plant growth and animal habitat science learning activities that can be completed with items from the shelves of a hardware store. This season, Hardware Science will provide store customers several engaging activities to fine tune the skills necessary to becoming a successful scientist: observing, measuring, and recording.



**Observing:** using one’s eyes and brain in an organized and careful manner to describe what is occurring. A magnifying lens might help.

**Measuring:** using a variety of specific tools to accurately measure the size, shape, time, temperature, and other physical characteristics of what is being observed. A tape measure, thermometer, and timer will help.

**Recording:** making prompt and accurate written and graphic descriptions of one’s observations and measurements. A pad and pencil should always be at hand.

**Alternate Strategies:** practicing creative thinking, seeking to resolve challenges with other than normal tools, materials or methods. A stroll down the aisle of the store will provide many solutions.

What a gift it is, for a hardware store to assist in the development of these skills in the minds of young members of its community.

Jake, Wizard IV *Jake, Wizard IV*

## Program Updates

### Own the Mile by Hosting a Hardware Science Event

The school year may be winding down in your community, but that doesn't mean learning has to stop. Engage your local families and children by hosting a Hardware Science event in your store. Follow this guide to demonstrate science activities that use regular hardware items to help kids learn about science. Print copies of the activities and distribute them in your store to keep kids' minds active throughout the summer months and supply them with the materials they need for the activities in your store.

**Step 1.** Choose your science communicator. Elect 1-2 individuals to be your science communicators for the demo. The communicators can be store associates, local teachers, librarians, high school students completing service hours, etc. The most important factor in choosing your communicator is that the person is passionate about science and is comfortable interacting with children!

**Step 2.** Choose the date and time of your demonstration and market the demo. Since the Hardware Science event is designed to connect with children, make sure you market to the children! Hang flyers at your local library and reach out to your local school to send flyers home with students. Daycares, summer camps, homeschooling programs, and after school programs are also great places to reach out to.

**Step 3.** Get your materials ready. Select 3 science activities to demonstrate during the event and gather the supplies needed which you should have on your shelves or backroom already! We suggest choosing from the Hardware Science Project Sheets available on Acenet to get you started. Make sure you have a table, chairs, and enough supplies for your science communicators and for 20-40 children to make their own while in your store. Also make sure you make at least 100 copies of each project sheet to pass out to the kids. It is also important for your science communicator to get familiar with the science lessons learned through each activity and be able to explain it to any participants. The science lessons are explained in the project sheets. Keep extra project supplies and *The Wizard's Book of Science Secrets* (Ace#s 9281858, 9298209, and 9298217) handy to sell to interested families!



**Step 4.** Conduct your event. Make sure you note what went well and what didn't so that you can improve for next time.

**Step 5.** Send us your feedback. We are always interested to hear about your experiences. Email us at [HardwareScience@acehardware.com](mailto:HardwareScience@acehardware.com) and tell us how your event went. You could be the next store featured in the next Hardware Science newsletter!



## Summer Hardware Science End Caps Now Available!

Encourage your local young scientists to keep their minds sharp over the summer by offering them outdoor science activities! Hardware Science is offering 2 options with different themes. The Bird Habitat end cap offers kids supplies to create a bird friendly environment with materials for offering food, water, and shelter in their own backyards. The Growing end cap teaches kids about gardening and offers materials to help kids grow their own basil, cilantro, mushrooms, and more! Supporting signage is also available to communicate these themes and appeal to kids and families. For the full sku listing of each end cap, visit us on Acenet at Manage My Store/ Promotions & Marketing/ Local/ Hardware Science.





## **Hardware Science in the Community**

**“Wizdom” from the Wizard:** Hardware Science gives stores a unique way to connect with their communities. Here are some successful events stores have executed to reach their local young scientists and their families.

### **Medford Ace Hardware Launches Hardware Science in their Community**

Medford, WI – Lon Rundquist, manager of Medford Ace Hardware in Wisconsin was on a quest to find a new way to support his store’s community. Medford Ace Hardware introduced Hardware Science at the Medford Home & Business Expo this past March. Armed with the Wizard Book of Science Secrets, Rundquist and his team did hands-on demonstrations at their booth for attendees of the 3-day expo. “Our booth was swamped everyday with kids, parents, grandparents and a swarm of teachers,” said Rundquist.



Some of the expo attendees were from other counties but that did not stop them from inquiring for more information about Hardware Science. Medford Ace will be holding hands-on workshops in their store and customers can look for them in upcoming ads. In addition to the in-store workshops, Rundquist is in demand outside of the store as well.

“I’ve been asked by our County Fair president to reserve time to set up a booth at the fair this year,” said Rundquist. “I was also asked to do activities with summer camps and do presentations at local elementary and middle schools.”

Teachers visiting the booth asked about holding workshops over the summer, especially right before school starts up to get kids back into “learning mode”.



The Hardware Science activities also attracted the attention of local Science Olympiad participants and said that next year they will not have to run all over the county looking for supplies as they can shop at Ace Hardware.

“Ace wants us to ‘Own the Mile’”, added Rundquist. “Hardware Science gives us another opportunity to do that along with our customer service, product selection and services.”

## It's Science Saturday at HouseMart Ace Hardware!

What a day! All 22 HouseMart Ace Hardware stores, located in Hawaii, Washington, Oregon and Nevada, participated in their Science Saturday program. The company carves out the first Saturday of each month to invite children and their parents to participate in Hardware Science activities. This week the company focused their demonstrations using air cannons and marshmallow shooters to demonstrate the concept of air pressure and used the fire tornado to show the effect of heat and its effect on atmospheric pressure conditions. In another activity, HouseMart employees used a balloon and either a nut or washer to build a gyroscope, teaching one of the basic concepts of physics that an object traveling in straight line motion tends to stay in motion until acted upon. As Store Manager, Bret Grandstrom, exclaimed, "The event was fun and I know that the kids enjoyed it, but I think the employees enjoyed it just as much!"



**Well, that's it folks! Keep your minds sharp and your eyes open to the wonderful world of science around you!**