

Paper Number: 3531

**Education in the National Museum of Geology (Geological Institute of Romania):  
Art, Science and Fun**

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The educational offer of the Geological Institute of Romania, through the National Museum of Geology in Bucharest, is constant, varied and is accessible to the public all year round. Following two distinct directions – i.e. specific geological programs and creative workshops, the Museum's work manages to effectively combine science and art, with the results translating into fun and interactivity.

The geological programs represent a journey through geological ages; children are invited to discover the secrets of prehistoric life, and to admire a succession of terrestrial and underwater life forms. The most interesting part to the children is undoubtedly the dinosaurs. Preschool and school children and even adults, are all fascinated by the mysterious creatures that once ruled Terra. Around them, stories, scenarios, and questions such as: "*Which was the most ferocious dinosaur?*" or "*How did dinosaurs disappear?*" have been created.

At the National Museum of Geology, the staff have a duty to elucidate these questions one by one, through scientific discussion and creativity. The dinosaur theme is integrated, together with many other topics, in programs such as: "*Prehistory understood by children*", "*Geological Time Machine*", "*Learn to model prehistoric animals*" and "*Building a dinosaur*". To consolidate their new knowledge in interesting ways, lessons include dynamic presentation, through movies and slides, together with the practical applications of fine arts: painting, modeling and collage. By far the most popular construction technique is modeling, with the children being attracted by 3D representations. In adapting to what young people wanted, the "*Building a dinosaur*" project was started in 2012 with the help of Canadian artists Brian Cooley and Mary Ann Wilson, both sculptors and painters, as well as palaeontologists.

By participating in this program children can assimilate knowledge about the appearance and living conditions of dinosaurs, and to practice their artistic skills by building wonderful collections of prehistoric animals. The results are fun for people of any age, and offer an amazing opportunity for continuing learning.

