

Duke Energy Children's Museum reopening FAQs

Why was the Duke Energy Children's Museum closed?

The Duke Energy Children's Museum was temporarily closed to accommodate construction activity on the mezzanine level above as part of the effort to restore Union Terminal. The required work was more extensive than anticipated and directly impacted public access to the Children's Museum. As portions of the Children's Museum became active construction zones we made the decision to close the Children's Museum.

What work is being done?

Work is being done to address decades of water penetration from the plaza into the mezzanine level below.

How are you taking care of Members?

We automatically extended active Memberships by 6 months and have worked with local and regional partners to expand reciprocal benefits at museums and attractions for the benefit of our Members.

Was anything new added to the Duke Energy Children's Museum?

The scope of work was strictly relegated to the mezzanine level above the Children's Museum. However, CMC did take advantage of this opportunity to give the Children's Museum an overall refresh.

Will the Duke Energy Children's Museum look any different?

CMC has taken advantage of this temporary closure to refresh the Children's Museum. The entire museum is getting a fresh coat of paint and new flooring is being installed throughout. Much-played with exhibits are also undergoing repairs. We are installing new netting around the Energy Zone, adding new animal specimens in Animal Spot, installing a new crane in Construction Zone, building a new Metro bus in Kids' Town, adding new stools in the Diner and installing a new slide in The Woods. All of your favorite animals from the aquarium and Nature's Trading Post will also be reintroduced when the Children's Museum reopens.

Will a closure like this happen again?

This closure was not planned and was necessitated by work that turned out to be more extensive than anticipated. In an 85-year-old building covering more than 500,000 square feet there is no way to predict every scenario, especially as some areas are uncovered for the first time in more than eight decades. However, at this point the restoration of Union Terminal, we do not expect any of the remaining work to have a significant impact on the Duke Energy Children's Museum or special exhibition gallery.

When will the restoration be complete?

The restoration will be complete in November 2018.

When will the other museums reopen?

The OMNIMAX Theater, Duke Energy Holiday Trains and new food and retail experiences will reopen in November 2018. Permanent exhibit and gallery spaces within the Museum of Natural History & Science and Cincinnati History Museum will open in phases as they are built, beginning in November 2018.