

Boo Bash a smash at Children's Museum

UTICA — By MONTANETTE MURPHY Observer-Dispatch



Why don't they have any seagulls on the bay? Because if they had seagulls on the bay, they would be called bay-gulls.

That humor, provided by magician Jeff Sterling, was part of the fun at the annual Halloween Boo Bash Saturday as parents and children scoured the Children's Museum to explore the building, collect sweet treats and participate in arts and crafts.

Guests had access to four floors of the museum, which featured exhibits, various interactive stations, an airplane display and a costume contest.

Adelaide McDermott, 4, of Whitesboro, came dressed as Mariposa, the Barbie butterfly fairy. She flitted from one exhibit to the next and collected items in a plastic bag to carry home. "She loves it," said Adelaide's father, Dawson McDermott. "It's like a big playhouse. We'll have a hard time getting her out of here."

The Costello family of Little Falls was at the museum for their first time. Mike Costello, 6, and his brother, Caleb, 2, enjoyed the dinosaur exhibit and magnets display. It also was educational for them, as they learned that honeybees were not in America when the Pilgrims arrived.

Elizabeth and Ryan Costello home-school Mike and Caleb, and the displays at the museum wove nicely with what Elizabeth is teaching the two boys, she said. During Mike's next visit to the museum, Mike said he wants to explore the animal room.

What he saw in that room Saturday piqued his curiosity. "I saw a snake and a big black fish with red gills ... and it had teeth," he said.