



# News Release

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## **“EXPERIENCE WESTERN” OFFERS TREASURE ISLAND FOR CHILDREN**

**St. Joseph, Mo.** —March 21, 2005— An exciting event this spring by Missouri Western State College will provide plenty of fun, games and activities for children of all ages.

It’s Treasure Island at “Experience Western! Discover the Treasure” on Western’s campus Saturday, April 9. And it’s all free!

Among the featured attractions are a M\*A\*S\*H tent to fix up “injuries,” a Jumping Jim maze, face painting, hovercraft rides, games, prizes and a whole lot more.

More than 25 activities will take over the second floor of the Nelle Blum Student Union from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each of the first 1,000 children will receive a gift bag, and several booths will give away small prizes to participants.

Other fun things for kids include bowling, live animals, many arts and crafts, creating a computer game, story time, fishing for treasures and more.

Partymasters, a group from Liberty, Mo., will walk around Treasure Island from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., entertaining with balloon animals, stunts and just clowning around. They are sponsored by Western’s Student Government Association.

Kristy Hill, Western director of public relations and marketing and coordinator of the event, said when it was time to plan Treasure Island for “Experience Western!,” the response from college departments was overwhelming. “So many people on campus wanted to be involved, and everyone had a great idea,” she said. “The day is full of fun activities for children, and I’m sure there is something for everyone.”

Smokey the Bear, sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation, will walk around and meet the children. The St. Joseph Fire Department will have a fire truck and equipment on display in the Student Union parking lot.

Several community organizations also are hosting children's activities at Treasure Island. They include the Allied Arts Council, Junior Achievement, Parents as Teachers, St. Joseph-Buchanan County Health Department, St. Joseph School District and Success by Six.

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*Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.*