

**For Immediate Release  
May 4, 2010 | 53-10**

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## **Laurier introduces SPARK and BrainWorx summer science camps for children**

WATERLOO – What does candy have to do with analyzing blood specimens? How does the brain work? Wilfrid Laurier University answers these questions and more through its two new summer science camps for children – SPARK and BrainWorx – at the school's Waterloo campus.

SPARK, offered through Laurier's Faculty of Science, brings children from grades two through eight into Laurier's science labs to conduct experiments and explore chemistry, biotechnology, physics, robotics, computing and biology. Outside of the lab, campers can enjoy Laurier's swimming pool, rock-climbing wall and soccer field.

"The Laurier Faculty of Science is very pleased to begin offering these camps to the local community," said Peter Tiidus, acting dean, Laurier Faculty of Science. "We are confident that this early education and promotion of science to youth will sow the seeds of a life-long interest and literacy in science and help to enhance future success."

BrainWorks, run through Laurier's Psychology Department, gives children aged three to eight the chance to participate in experimental and training studies. A summer camp with a brainy twist, BrainWorx campers will engage in memory, language and auditory studies mixed with the summer sports and crafts activities children love.

"Children will get hands-on insight into why their brain sees the world the way it does," said Kim Roberts, Laurier psychology professor and development area coordinator. "Each day children will bring home a 'what I learned about my brain today' booklet so parents and children can share information about the incredible computer we call the brain. Children will be amazed at how smart they are!"

For further information about SPARK, BrainWorx and Laurier's archaeology, athletics and recreation, String Academy, ArtsExpress and Laurier Enriched Academic Programming (LEAP) summer camps, visit [www.wlu.ca/camps4kids](http://www.wlu.ca/camps4kids).

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