



The Treatment and
Learning Centers
TLC

a family of services where caring comes first

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Mobile Science Lab Visits TLC's Katherine Thomas School *Students Conduct "Hands On" Genomic Research, Examine Effects of Drugs*

Rockville, Md.—[TLC—The Treatment and Learning Centers](http://www.ttlc.org), a local, private, non-profit agency providing educational, vocational, and therapeutic services to children and adults with disabilities and typically developing children, hosted a visit on May 9 from the [J. Craig Venter Institute's DISCOVER GENOMICS! Mobile Science Education Program](http://www.jcvi.org) at the agency's [Katherine Thomas School](http://www.ktschool.org) (KTS). KTS is an independent day school for students with language and learning disabilities and high-functioning autism and currently enrolls students from preschool through eleventh grade, expanding to twelfth grade in fall 2008.

As part of their health unit, science students examined the effects of alcohol and nicotine on an organism and its heart rate in an activity called "Daphnia and the Effects of Drugs." Seventh and eighth grade students in Allen Miller's science class had an opportunity to conduct "hands-on" genomics research by formulating hypotheses, operating microscopes and carrying out a full experiment.

The 40-foot long Mobile Science Lab is a modified motor coach outfitted with advanced laboratory equipment and a camera that can transmit to LCD screens in the front and back of the bus for easy viewing. The Lab accommodates up to 30 students, their teacher, and two Venter Institute mobile laboratory instructors.

About TLC

TLC—The Treatment and Learning Centers, located in Rockville, Md., enables children and adults to develop their full potential, communicate effectively with others, and achieve educational success. TLC provides services that strengthen their abilities and respond to their changing needs. With over 56 years of service to the community, TLC is committed to integrity and excellence in our care and will strive to assist all, regardless of their ability to pay. For more information call 301.424.5200 or visit www.ttlc.org.

About the J. Craig Venter Institute

The J. Craig Venter Institute is a not-for-profit research institute dedicated to the advancement of the science of genomics; the understanding of its implications for society; and communication of those results to the scientific community, the public, and policymakers. Founded by J. Craig Venter, Ph.D., the JCVI is home to approximately 500 scientists and staff. The legacy organizations of the JCVI are: The Institute for Genomic Research (TIGR), The Center for the Advancement of Genomics (TCAG), the Institute for Biological Energy Alternatives (IBEA), the Joint Technology Center (JTC), and the J. Craig Venter Science Foundation. For

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additional information, please visit www.JCVI.org .

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