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BEST OF THE BAY



Best of the Bay 2005

Best Place to Get an Expert Opinion

Got a burning desire to know more about the human brain, hurricanes, Saturn's largest moon, the instinctual capabilities of baby animals, evolution, dead bodies, mad cow disease, nanotechnology, deadly snakes, dinosaurs, or Martians? You could watch something on the Discovery Channel — or you could really educate yourself by checking into **Ask a Scientist**, a monthly lecture and discussion series for grown-ups that makes learning about science a fun, interesting affair. And forget that classroom setting that made you doze off in high school — the events are held at local cafés, presumably with no giant poster of the periodic table of elements in sight. Why stare slack-jawed at nightly news reports about stem cell research when you can have your questions answered by Dr. Bruce Conklin of UCSF's Gladstone Institute? Why not augment your 50,000th viewing of *Twister* with insight from Christopher Burns, author of *Extreme Weather*? Will an evening spent learning from a US Geological Survey seismologist help alleviate that nightmare involving the Bay Bridge and a big, fat earthquake that's haunted you since 1989? Only one way to find out: Ask a Scientist! www.askascientistsf.com.

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