



## e-Newsletter 46

Welcome back to what promises to be another exciting year of STEM activities and fun in schools around the country! By now you should have received your 'Welcome Back Pack', which includes a wall planner and information about the Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science and Maths Awards. If not, please contact [primaryscience@sfi.ie](mailto:primaryscience@sfi.ie) to request a pack.

### Programme Updates

#### Teachers' CPD

Registration for our Teachers' CPD programme is currently open and we are looking forward to working with another 100 school this year. A small number of places for CPD are still available and places can be booked [on the website](#).

#### Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science and Maths Award

Why not get the recognition you and your class deserve for your STEM work by applying for a Science Foundation Ireland Discover Science & Maths Award?

Recent research shows it's beneficial at both whole school and classroom level and provides a focussed opportunity for engaging, hands on science that generates enthusiasm for the subject.

From 3 October 2016 until 16 March 2017 you can register your school's intention to apply for an award [online](#).

Check out the step-by-step guide and the Awards Toolkit and get stuck in!

#### Inclusive Approaches to Science

This year we have added a new section to the website on [inclusive approaches to Science](#) which showcases examples of how schools have been working inclusively. It also features links to the Special Education Support Services extensive range of excellent support and resources including guidelines to enable students with Mild, Moderate and Severe & Profound General Learning Disabilities (GLD) to access SESE.

## ESERO Ireland



### Space Week- The Universe in Your Class! 3 - 8 October 2016

Space Week is Ireland's newest National STEM week in parallel with World Space Week. It is YOUR week to focus on the wonders and realities of the Universe around us.

Participating in Space Week with your class means you will use the powers of creativity, critical thinking, science, technology, engineering and maths to help shape your understanding of life on Earth and our place in Space.

### **Get involved!**

Discover the Universe in your class by simply completing one of the [classroom activities](#) on Sizes and Scales in the Solar System or Mars: the Red Planet, or visit our website or create your own activity! Completing these activities in your classroom is considered an event so simply register this on [www.spaceweek.ie](http://www.spaceweek.ie) and receive Space Week goodies for your class. Or simply just search for events to attend in your area.

Workshops to help you use the Space Week classroom resources will be run in Blackrock Education Centre (DUBLIN) and Blackrock Castle Observatory (CORK)

Reserve your place now by applying online at these locations:

**Dublin - Blackrock Education Centre**

22 September 4pm to 6pm

Book at: [www.blackrockec.ie](http://www.blackrockec.ie)

### **Cork - Blackrock Castle Observatory**

27 September 6pm to 8pm

Book at [www.bco.ie](http://www.bco.ie)

[www.spaceweek.ie](http://www.spaceweek.ie) | #SpaceWeek16 | The Universe in Your Class!

And remember, you can always visit us at the [www.esero.ie](http://www.esero.ie) for lots of space related teaching resource and information.

See the Rosetta mission story in cartoons on the ESERO website under the Planet Earth in Space Section on Primary Level Classroom Resources.

Watch out for the exciting [end of the Rosetta mission](#) on 30 September.

### **Space Scoop Comic Competition**

Space Scoop brings you the latest astronomy news from across the Universe each week with updates on the latest missions aboard the International Space Station, stars, planets and space travel.

To celebrate the new [Space Scoop website](#) and [Universe Awareness](#)' 10 year anniversary, we're asking our readers to create their very own Space Scoop Comic! Anyone between the ages of 8 and 18 years is invited to create an original short comic based on a Space Scoop stories from [www.spacescoop.org](http://www.spacescoop.org).

Participants simply select their favourite [Space Scoop](#), download our [comic template](#) and let their creativity flow!

The competition deadline is 18 November 2016.

## National STEM Weeks

Maths Week 15 - 23 October: Do you have it figured?



[Maths Week Ireland](#) promotes awareness, appreciation and understanding of maths with tonnes of events and ideas for maths-based fun and games.

Science Week 13- 20 November



Are you passionate about discovery? Then don't miss out on your chance to be part of Ireland's largest celebration of science. Visit [www.scienceweek.ie](http://www.scienceweek.ie) for information on events and resources so your class can join in the fun!



## Science Foundation Ireland Discover Centres

Discover Primary Science & Maths has a network of over 55 Science Centres with approved workshops and/or outreach resources. Check out what's happening in your area:

### Science Foundation Ireland Discover Centre Video – Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre

Join the children from Gaelscoil Longfoirt as they explore science and maths through paint and colour at [Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre](#).

### Ballyhoura Outdoor Classroom, Griston Bog



School Tours at Griston will resume Monday-Wednesday from September 2016 and run to June 2017, and can be booked by contacting 063-91300 or [emailbooking@ballyhouraoutdoorclassroom.com](mailto:emailbooking@ballyhouraoutdoorclassroom.com)

The Autumn & Winter programme will involve activities like time travel through the stages of bog development, measuring the depth, using quadrants to determine how common sphagnum moss, the bog building plant, is at Griston, fair testing, bird watching, pond dipping and lots more.

Monthly tours for the public will resume for autumn and winter on the history and geography of the development of the bog and can be arranged for visiting groups on request.

For up to date information on events and public tours follow us on Twitter: @BallyhouraOC and Facebook: Facebook/BallyhouraOutdoorClassroom

### CIT Blackrock Observatory

As you'd expect Space Week will be a blast at CIT Blackrock Observatory! But here's also a range of school events and workshops for Maths Week and Science Week as well as Teachers' Evening Courses.

See the Discover Primary Science & Maths website for [further information](#).

### ECO-UNESCO



ECO-UNESCO specialise in DPSM workshops with an environmental focus. Our topics are curriculum linked and adapted from our popular ECO-Watchers and ECO-Action series, not to mention our Junior Urban Ecology days! Topics include Climate Change, Energy, Water, Waste and Biodiversity, and we can deliver in your school or in our DPSM Centre in Dublin City Centre.

All of our exciting workshops are fun and interactive – piece together the water cycle, learn new words, take our predators quiz, and much more! Contact [youth@ecounesco.ie](mailto:youth@ecounesco.ie) for more information or to make a booking!

Available year-round [www.ecounesco.ie](http://www.ecounesco.ie)

## **Global Action Plan**

Is your Primary School aiming for STEM Excellence? [Global Action Plan](#) is delighted to offer a selection of DPSM accredited workshops that we can deliver in your school; 'Water Wise' is our environmental outreach workshop and 'The Colour of Science' is our science outreach workshop! Or, if you're looking to arrange a hands-on class trip, the ever-popular 'Garden Biodiversity' tour brings you to our working Community Garden in Dublin! Phone Gráinne on 01 883 2185 or email [education@globalactionplan.ie](mailto:education@globalactionplan.ie) for further information.

Water Explorer is a fun, interactive online educational resource engaging 8-15 year olds across 11 different countries to learn about water issues and develop the confidence to ACT on them. This highly competitive programme is FREE and schools can win prizes, workshops and a place at National and International Water Explorer Finals.

Register online: [www.waterexplorer.ie](http://www.waterexplorer.ie)

## **Ballymun Rediscovery Centre**

We offer a wide range of STEM primary school workshops for Junior Infants to 6th class on topics including: Waste, Energy, Biodiversity, Circuits, Water, Forces, Science Experiments, Engineering, Maths and Space. All of our workshops are linked to the primary curriculum and are based on hands-on enquiry and experiential learning.

We are currently taking bookings for the new 2016/17 academic year. We also deliver specialist workshops for Space, Maths and Science weeks and activities and are delighted to announce the Let's Talk Science Festival taking place on 19 November 2016.

See the Discover Primary Science & Maths website for [further information](#).

## **Galway Atlantaquaria**

October is Maths month at Galway Atlantaquaria. With the support of the Explorers Education Programme™, Maths Week 2016 and DPSM, we will be holding maths workshops throughout the month for students from 1st -6th Class. Workshops will be available from 10 October and will take approximately 2 hours.

See the Discover Primary Science & Maths website for [further information](#).

## Partner organisations

### SEAI School Resources 2016/2017

Learn about energy through the Primary Science Curriculum with Exploring our Energy lessons, and interactive whiteboard resources. Let Guzzler help your class learn all about energy [see the website](#) for more details.

**Free workshops** are available for primary schools; our facilitator along with Guzzler will visit the junior classes while we have exiting experiments and a floor game for the senior classes. Go to [http://seai.ie/Schools/School\\_Workshops/](http://seai.ie/Schools/School_Workshops/) for more details and to book your place today.

The **One Good Idea** is launching on 19 September and is open for 3rd to 6th Classes. This is an exciting competition on energy efficiency and climate change. For more details and to register to go [www.seai.ie/onegoodidea](http://www.seai.ie/onegoodidea)

### RDS STEM Learning - Join us 2016/2017



### The Outdoor Classroom on your Doorstep – November 26, RDS, Dublin

Featuring keynote speaker Sam Kendall, the Eden Project, this one day conference will focus on using STEM investigations as a context for cross-curricular outdoor learning in primary schools. Participants will explore new ways to bring science and maths in to children's everyday lives through a series of hands-on workshops and networking sessions.

For details on registrations please visit [www.rds.ie/STEMLearning](http://www.rds.ie/STEMLearning) or email us at [STEMLearning@rds.ie](mailto:STEMLearning@rds.ie)



*RDS STEM Learning is an initiative of the RDS and DCU in partnership with SFI's Discover Primary Science and Maths Programme.*

## RDS Primary Science Fair



Now going into its eighth year, the RDS Primary Science Fair will take place in 2017 at the RDS Dublin, 12-14 January, MIC Limerick, 19-21 January, & Belfast Waterfront, Belfast, 8-9 June.

Applications to exhibit a project in Dublin, Limerick & Belfast are open to 4th, 5th and 6th classes (ROI) and Key Stage 2 (NI). All the information you need to know about applying is available on the [RDS website](#) including examples of class projects that have previously been selected.

## ReelLIFE SCIENCE

Supported by the [Science Foundation Ireland Discover](#) programme and the [CÚRAM Centre for Research in Medical Devices](#), [ReelLIFE SCIENCE](#) is a novel science video competition for Irish schools, which aims to promote Science in the classroom and beyond, by inviting students to produce a short video communicating a scientific topic in an engaging and entertaining way. With €3000 in prizes and a range of topics to choose from including The Heart, Life in Space, Science and Me, Our Many Senses and the Science of Farming there's something to catch everyones imagination!

Closing date 14 October - winners announced on 14 November during [Science Week 2016](#).

## Teacher Programmes at the Glucksman, UCC

### **Teachers Preview Evening, 4pm – 5:30pm, 29 September 2016**

We welcome educators from all backgrounds to join us for a curatorial tour of our current exhibition '[I Went to the Woods: The artist as wanderer](#)'.

We will be providing light refreshments and an opportunity to meet fellow educators and to discuss upcoming gallery projects.

Free of charge, booking required; [education@glucksman.org](mailto:education@glucksman.org) or +353 21 4901844

### **Art Teachers Masterclass – Art and Architecture, 10am – 1pm, 15 October 2016**

Join Curator of Education Tadhg Crowley and architect Gareth Sullivan for a morning masterclass that looks at art and design projects ready to be reimagined in your classroom.

This season the focus will be on enabling your students to develop immersive projects through the use of primary sources. Teachers will work on practical projects that engage students in the architecture design process.

Cost €25, booking required; [education@glucksman.org](mailto:education@glucksman.org) or +353 21 490 1844



SFI Discover, SFI Discover,

Wilton Park House,

Wilton Place,

Dublin 2.