



Examples of National Science and Engineering Week events from funded schools

Below are details of events from schools that organised activities for National Science and Engineering Week. These examples are hopefully useful for ideas for your school and demonstrate the wide variety of events and activities that happen across the country to celebrate National Science and Engineering Week.

These examples are also from schools who were funded through our School Grant Scheme. We funded just under 500 schools in 2009 to run events (awarding money from £150-£500). If you find your school is not eligible to apply for our funding don't despair there are many free or cost effective ways to celebrate National Science and Engineering Week. We also have lots of free resources, ideas and activities available each year, see our website www.nsew.org.uk.

Name of school	Heathfield Primary
Description of event	Aims: To involve pupils in hands on, interactive discovery about space including the sun, moon and planets. To question and explore the technology and engineering needed for space exploration. To work collaboratively to share and develop knowledge and understanding of space. Topics covered included: Sun, moon and planets, Star gazing, Space missions, Becoming an astronaut
How many pupils	254 (not including nursery)
Age range of pupils	7-10
Event successful?	The event was successful. There was a variety of learning taking places and taught in a cross-curricular and interactive way which is what we had hoped for. It also allowed teachers to share their expertise.
Remember most?	Children being dressed as astronauts and recreating the moon landing both using drama and digital filming.

Name of school	Beaufort Primary School
Description of event	We held a week long science week in our school. The school is nationally in the bottom 5% of socially deprived areas and we wanted to bring science alive to our children and show them the significance it has in the outside world. We planned a week where the science we look at in school was very hands on - by rotating children through 5 different investigations. The aim was to inspire our pupils to ask scientific questions and raise their aspirations by understanding that they can find out answers. With the grant money we booked a MadScience show to really start the week off with a bang!

How many pupils? 282
Age range of pupils 3 - 11
Event successful? Yes, especially practical investigative science has a higher profile in school as a result of the science week and we have a uniformed format to plan and record investigations with.
Remember most? The wow factor at the beginning - the Mad a bout science event. Also we had a sharing assembly at the end of the week and collated photos and other work in a school science week presentation folder. The response and feedback from all three things has been very positive.

Name of school Thomas Hickman School
Description of event Aim: To take part in S & E week as we have not done so previously. To raise science investigation opportunities in a stimulating environment.
Format: To use Challenge pack activities throughout year groups each afternoon during NSEW.
Topics: Change through various activities in pack: weather, ourselves,
How many pupils 417
Age range of pupils 5-11
Event successful? Yes, it was meant for the school as a taster and as Science coordinator I wanted to start small to see how it would work and what would be involved. Now that we took part in Science and Engineering Week 09 I look forward to carrying out a larger event next year hopefully involving parents too.
Remember most? I teach Year 1 so it was great to see the amazement on the children's faces with small experiments that caused change e.g. watching a bronze coin come clean in lemon juice, and making Cheese Straws to see the change in dough when cooked as well as the shape of the dough when pushed and pulled. The children enjoyed eating them too. It was also great to have the whole school doing one theme in science and working as a group.

Name of school Mithian School
Description of event The aim of our Science Week this year was to give the children a better understanding of our earth, sun, moon and solar system. The format was a week of practically based activities with a celebration assembly and open afternoon for the wider community at the end. There was a ongoing competition with prizes for the children to do at home enabling the parents to become involved as well. Space Odyssy were booked to bring a dome into school and do a presentation to the whole school - this is a difficult concept to teach children and a more visual, practical approach helped with this. We also booked Callington Space Centre to come in. The topics for the week were The Planets in our Solar System and the Earth, Sun and Moon.
How many pupils 99
Age range of pupils 4 - 11
Event successful? Yes, children learnt all about space and have been fascinated by the stars and planets since then. Still the focus of many show and tells.

Remember most? The funding that paid for the space dome. This enabled the children to experience space in a multisensory way.

Name of school ULT Barnsley Academy

Description of event SCI-TNGENUITY (Science Engineering Challenge). This was a series of workshops for primary, secondary and community learners (carers and single-parents). Here they safely designed, devised, constructed, tested and evaluated "engineering structures" e.g. towers, cranes, masts, bridges, cantilevers and lifting machines using motors, solid fuel engines (steam generating), winches, pulleys, drive belts/shafts for the purpose of elevating a test load to above 3 metres above the ground. Developed using materials such Meccano, K-NEX, Lego (Technical) and construction materials and custom-fabricated metal brackets, base plates, counter weights. Aim was to extend STEM science, engineering, numeracy and teamwork challenge opportunities to over 500 young people (and parents/carers) from Barnsley Academy, partnership feeder Primary Schools and Community Learners.

How many pupils 560

Age range of pupils 11-16

Event successful? Yes - very successful. High levels of engagement, development of science, technology, engineering and mathematical skills good personal learning and thinking skills, teamwork and problem solving outcomes.

Remember most? Children celebrating successful completion of engineering tasks and building buggies sixth form helpers enjoyed working with youngsters - good levels of interaction - worthwhile outcomes for presenters and helpers who enjoyed the activity and successful completion of the challenge.

Name of school Ysgol Crug Glas

Description of event At Ysgol Crug Glas there are around 50 children with profound and multiple learning difficulties. Teaching and learning is through a multi sensory curriculum and is designed to activate and integrate the senses. During science week we made a Reflexology Sensory Trail. This involved the children working in the small Forest Schools area adjacent to the school; experiencing, new sights, sounds, textures, and smells relayed to them through their feet and the sensory rhythm of walking, or playing in or on mud, sand, water, gravel, brick paving, pebbles and herbal lawns. Topics covered related to materials, and changes in materials; the weather, our bodies and our environment. Each child had aims directly related to his/ her Individual Educational Plan. The addition of The Reflexology Trail to the well established Sensory curriculum at Crug Glas would access another 14000 nerve endings, (7000 in each foot!) In the Far East where reflexology trails have been used for 100s of years they are believed to lower blood pressure, detoxify the body, ease aches and pains and aid longevity.

How many pupils 49

Age range of pupils 3-19

Event successful? yes

Remember most? Amazement about how some of the most fastidious children could jump

barefoot into the mud, pick up worms and want more!!

Name of school	Woodside Community School
Description of event	<p>A Science Enrichment Week was planned to run from 9th to 13th March 2009. All year groups and children were involved in a topic broadly named "Change". Each year group or 2 year group cluster had a separate topic ranging from: living things, weather, water cycle and sustainable energy. In Reception year group a pop-up greenhouse was planned in which children learnt how to plant and care for sunflowers from seeds to plants. During this time they measured and recorded the growth of the plants. In Years 1 and 2: we had ladybirds which children could watch change from caterpillars into butterflies and mark their progress using pictures.</p> <p>Years Reception, 1 and 2 aims: to provide practical opportunities to further develop skills in AT1 (pupils should be taught that it is important to collect evidence by making observations and measurements when trying to answer a question); AT2 (to relate life processes to animals and plants found in the local environment; that humans and other animals need food and water to stay alive; how to treat animals with care and sensitivity; to recognise that plants need light and water to grow). In Years 3 and 4: we had a weather station which children could use to record their findings using simple graphs to develop their measuring and observational skills. In Years 5 and 6: there was a water cycle model and a sustainable energy model to develop an understanding and enhance their awareness of these processes - making learning fun and interactive. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6: to provide practical opportunities to further develop skills in AT1 (that science is about thinking creatively to try to explain how living and non-living things work, and to establish links between causes and effects); AT2 (Physical processes)</p> <p>Our aim across the whole school was to develop an appreciation and respect of our living environment and other living things; and to spark an interest in the subject of science as a whole. Most of the planned resources are reusable thereby enabling these enrichment weeks to run annually.</p>
How many pupils	287
Age range of pupils	4-10
Event successful?	This week has been very successful and has developed their appreciation and respect of our living environment and other living things; and for many has sparked an interest in the subject of Science as a whole. Our school is located in a very urban and economically deprived area and many of the experiences and sights were totally new to our children.
Remember most?	Hearing the children talk about and describe the time they watched as some of the caterpillars changed into butterflies.

Name of school	Mountfield Primary
Description of event	We invited a speaker into school called Tom Mulholland who runs Technology Tom 's Science Roadshow. He delivers science shows to large groups of pupils with lots of demonstrations and lots of audience participation. He makes science fun and exciting whilst at the same time engaging the children and imparting knowledge. My main aim was to help

the children learn whilst at the same time realise how exciting science can be. Due to the nature of our catchment area, we have a very high proportion of free school meals 48.9% we wanted to give our children the opportunity to experience this event as their parents don't always have time or money to take them places. He covered a variety of science topics in his presentation such as electricity, forces, light and sound. We had 2 shows, one for Key Stage 1 and the other for Key Stage 2 on 2009 at a cost of £350.

How many pupils	210
Age range of pupils	5 - 11
Event successful?	Yes the event was extremely successful. We had something that we could not have otherwise have afforded to do. Also we had an interesting and informative time making learning and science fun.
Remember most?	The children's faces, rapt in concentration or wreathed in smiles depending on what was happening at the time. The comments from children saying what a good time they'd had and how much they 'd learnt. I did not realise SCIENCE could be so much FUN, said lots of children. The whole school taking part in something for Science Week that I had organised and that we could give the children a great experience due to your generosity.

Name of school	Brookside Primary School
Description of event	<p>Aim: For children to take part in a fun practical science activity which motivates them to engage with science. Topic; forces, materials, construction (K-Nex), building.</p> <p>Format: All children in the school (239) had the opportunity to take part in a practical science session run by the Oxford Trust (science centre) in school. Children in KS2 carried out a forces investigation using materials to construct machines and games. Children in FSU made paper plate puppets and children in KS1 had the opportunity to explore the properties of different materials including making slime.</p>
How many pupils	239
Age range of pupils	3 - 11
Event successful?	I consider the event to have been successful. It highlighted NSEW and meant that some parents and pupils visited other events in Oxford that weekend.
Remember most?	The fact that all children whatever their ability were able to engage in an activity together which they had never experienced before. All the children with emotional and behavioural issues were not noticed by any member of staff - a real testament to how engaged they were in the activities.

Name of school	Fairway Primary School and Children's Centre
Description of event	We wanted to hold a Science Week during this period. The aim was to involve the whole school community as much as possible in science activities. Jeremy King, a retired engineer, held workshops with classes to make different things. A planetarium was put in the hall for all classes to visit. Key Stage 2 also visited the observatory which is a 25 minute walk away. There were other activities during the week plus one for all the family:-who can build a fruit buggy that will go the furthest!? When organising events we

are often hindered by financial limitations as the school has a tight budget and we are unable to get every family to contribute to events thus leaving a larger shortfall than planned. The educational benefit of the visiting engineer was invaluable as he had the expertise to really bring home to the children what an 'engineer' can achieve. The planetarium brought the wow factor to learning for all ages and helped bring science alive. I firmly believe that such events are a great motivating factor to children and can inspire them to be the scientists of the future especially the children that are on our 'Gifted and Talented' register. It is also very much a part of 'Every child matters' and the strands to do with achievement, motivation and economic well-being.

How many pupils	210
Age range of pupils	5-11
Event successful?	It brought the excitement and fascination of space to life for all the years including the Nursery children. The children learnt that there are 'real' jobs linked to engineering and science. They practised skills of working in a team, designing and making.
Remember most?	The children's faces! The questions asked as a result of the visitors which showed how much the children had been captured by them.

Name of school	Sudell Primary School
Description of event	<p>Aims: to highlight the importance of science in the curriculum to the children and the wider community.</p> <p>Format: each class had a 'science morning'. Tables were set up in the hall and each class was responsible for demonstrating a particular aspect of the science they were learning in their classes. Parents and the local community were invited to come and take part. Children were invited to dress up a something 'scientific' and there was a 'round the hall' quiz set up with a prize for the winner.</p>
How many pupils	196
Age range of pupils	4 - 11
Event successful?	Yes - very successful - children are still talking about it!
Remember most?	The high standard of dressing up - some very imaginative designs that children and parents had obviously thought a lot about – e.g. a human volcano made out of a cape covered with expanding foam painted red with face and hair to match! - a DNA hat, a giant toothbrush, a recycling robot and many more. I intend to display the photos and memories in the school!

Name of school	Harmeny School
Description of event	One of the main aims of the Science and Engineering Festival was to bring fun, interactive activities to our own children and as many children in our local community as we could accommodate. We invited children from three local mainstream primary schools and one local school for children with Additional Support Needs (physical and learning difficulties). We liaised with one of our local secondary schools to obtain the support of S5/6 pupils to mentor our own pupils in presenting the activities, providing an activity and supporting visiting children so that they could access as many activities as

possible on a small group basis. The festival employed all our resources across the school making use of education, care, outdoor education and a number of our specialist resources. There was approximately fifteen interactive activities planned and run by the school in conjunction with the senior pupils. We also organised outside contributors such as road shows/exhibits from The Glasgow Science Centre and The Food Bus. Apart from the obvious benefits of developing awareness in Science and Engineering and the academic knowledge gained from organising, presenting and taking part in the activities, there were numerous social benefits for both our own children and those from other schools e.g. social interaction, self esteem building, awareness of Additional Support Needs, building links within the local community.

How many pupils	25
Age range of pupils	7-18
Event successful?	Very successful. Met all aims.
Remember most?	This event - it took a lot of planning but was very successful and will have long ranging benefits for the school.

Name of school	Suffolk New College
Description of event	<p>Aim - that we highlight the plight of 2 rainforests, the Amazon Rainforest and The Congo Rainforest and man's effect on these.</p> <p>The Biology Laboratory was turned into Stanleyville Telegraph Office for the week. We 'decorated' to mimic a rainforest at night, arranging material around the sides and hanging things from the 'canopy'. Stuffed to the gunwales with plants, butterflies, reptiles etc this was visually stunning but allowed the lab to be used normally for lesson times. Leaches were kept caged!! Student poster work was displayed. Water baths were used to turn up the humidity and we also made it as dark as possible. We used a variety of equipment to simulate the sounds, smells and lights of the forest at night (laptops, interactive whiteboard, sound effects e.g waterfalls, crickets, thunderstorms, strobe lighting etc). We invited catering students to operate a 'jungle' juice bar in a selected clean area. This was open to all students at the college but set up by our own science students. Visitors were greeted and had to be orientated into the Jungle. Between the science staff we put on a short 15 – 20 minute talk daily at 1.00pm</p> <p>Following Topics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Creepy Crawlies + Reptiles (we rented some from the local reptile shop)2. Tropical Diseases and their effects3. A presentation on snake, frog and spider venoms.4. Man's effect on the Congo and Amazon talk and poster displays5. A climate demonstration, humidity, thunderstorms etc something that is noisy and wet!!
How many pupils	3,500
Age range of pupils	16- 19
Event successful?	A great success. We raised our profile massively in the college and appeared as a full page spread in the East Anglian Daily paper and the Ipswich Evening Star
Remember most?	A lot of work, but excellent team spirit with mixture of lecturers and some

Name of school	Cole Street
Description of event	<p>Aim: To engage with the Fun Food Chef for a day to work with children throughout the school looking at healthy eating and nutrition.</p> <p>Children made recipes and followed instructions appropriate to their age. Children used locally sourced produce, supporting fair trade and ecological practices and products. All the presentations supported government initiatives. We promoted the 5 a day challenge and demonstrated the schools well being under OFSTED inspections.</p> <p>Children experienced the importance of hygiene around food and their bodies. As result of the day parents were invited in to see what the children had achieved, we made a whole school book to promote the activity and invited the local press in to acknowledge the British Science Association involvement and funding without which we would be unable to put on the event. We would made recipe booklets to sell to the local community.</p> <p>Cole Street Primary school is in an area of high deprivation nationally and the children have limited experiences outside their homes. It enabled us to reach parents who themselves have limited understanding of nutritional meals.</p>
How many pupils	149
Age range of pupils	4 to 11
Event Successful?	I thought that the event was extremely successful and having had the food chef in for the first time I would want to invite him back to school. The grant has enabled us to have a fabulous experience and one that the children will remember.
Remember most?	Personally I will remember the smell of the food cooking, hearing the children the engaged in questions and excited chatting.