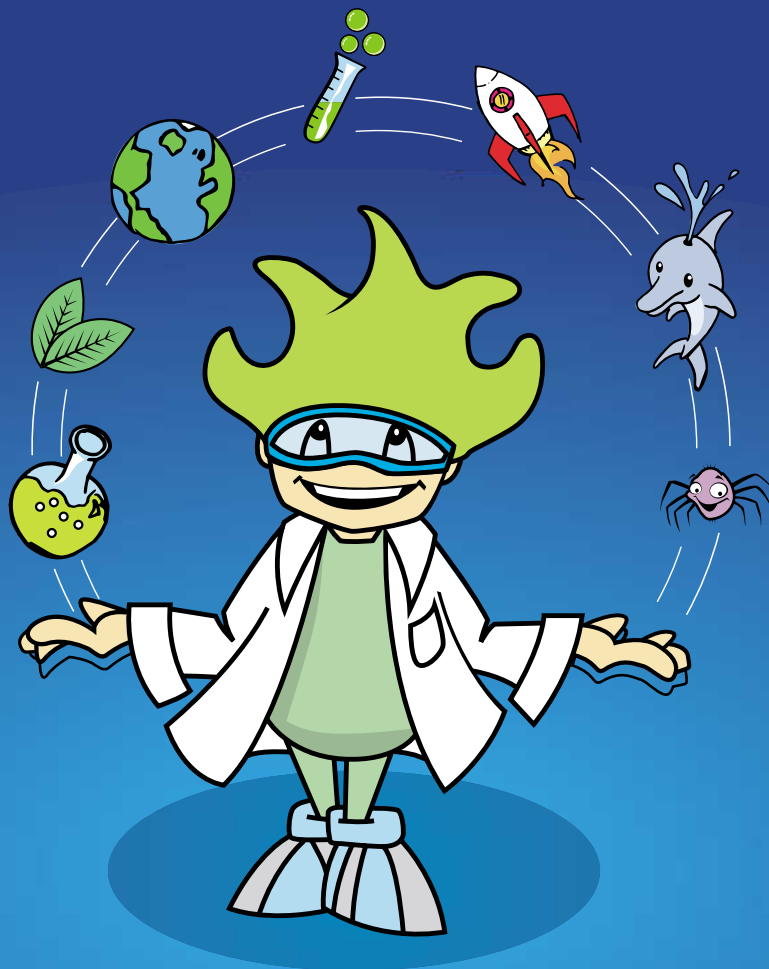


Discover Primary Science

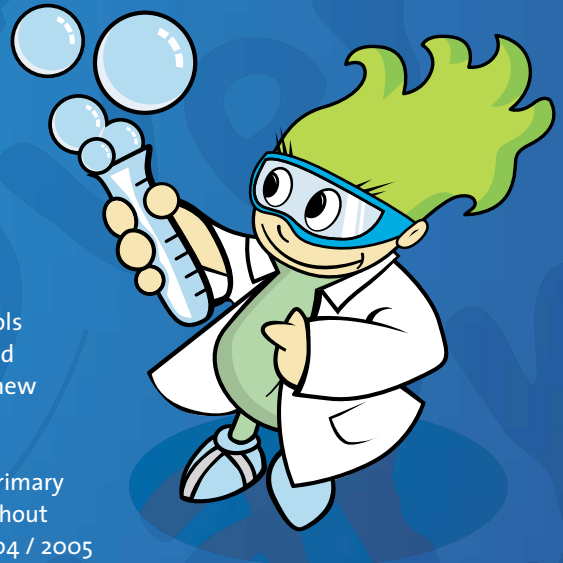
and see how your world works

www.science.ie



Discover
Science + Engineering

Welcome to Discover Primary Science



Over the last two years, as part of the Discover Science & Engineering Programme, Primary Science Clubs have been set up in 140 primary schools throughout Ireland. Designed to introduce students to science in a fun and interactive way, the clubs have also supported teachers in delivering the new SESE: Science curriculum.

This year, the Primary Science Clubs project has been renamed as Discover Primary Science and is expanding its reach even further. 600 primary schools throughout Ireland will be selected to participate in Discover Primary Science for the 2004 / 2005 academic year (limited availability of places so apply now!)

We hope that the Discover Primary Science programme will become an invaluable resource for teachers and students alike by helping large numbers of young Irish children to understand that science isn't just about people in white coats carrying out difficult experiments. It's about fun, discovery and adventure, and it is something which is fundamentally relevant to our everyday lives.



Discover Primary Science offers teachers:

* Hands-on training sessions for all teachers participating in the Discover Primary Science project (one teacher per school). The teacher training sessions are given by experienced science trainers on specially assigned teacher induction days in early 2005. They are hosted throughout the country in Colleges of Education, Education Centres, Institutes of Technology and Universities. As part of the induction days, the teachers are given the opportunity to carry out all the activities contained in the practical activity packs.

* *Sub-cover is provided for teachers participating in the training sessions.*

Resources and Support

- A pack of 31 easy-to-follow prescribed science activities, aimed primarily at 8 – 12 year olds, though some activities are also suitable for junior classes. All activities can be used to develop primary science lessons.
- Guidelines and clear instructions for each activity.
- Easy to source equipment lists.
- Helpful hints for teachers and explanations of the science background for each activity.
- Explanation of how activities link to the curriculum.
- A network of Discover Primary Science Centres will offer exciting programmes to visiting Discover Primary Science Schools.



Recognition

- Certificates and badges will be available to all students that participate in Discover Primary Science when the teacher completes and returns an evaluation form which will be sent out at towards the end of the school year.
- Certificate of participation for every school.
- Schools will have the opportunity to apply for an Award of Excellence. The awards will be given to those schools which excel in their levels of participation in Discover Primary Science. Criteria will be outlined for schools to be eligible to apply.



How to Join

Complete the on-line registration form by logging on to www.science.ie/primaryscience or phone 01- 607 3184 for assistance.

Pick your top three preferences for a host centre and date for teacher training from the list on the back page. **(every effort will be made to facilitate applicants choice).**

Getting Started

Prescribed activities

Once the training sessions are completed, you are ready to get started. The practical activity packs will be distributed to all participating teachers at the teacher induction days in early 2005. The activities cover many scientific topics such as living things, magnets, ourselves, light and colour. Aimed primarily at 8 – 12 year olds, the pack helps to stimulate children's curiosity and develop their scientific skills such as observing, measuring and recording. Dancing Raisins, Dyeing with Red Cabbage, Snake Spirals and Acrobatic Clowns are just some of the scientific activities that your students will be able to work on.

Exploring opportunities to discover science

As part of Discover Primary Science, children are encouraged to ask questions, come up with suggestions and, most importantly, develop their own ideas. We would encourage teachers and students to take part in explorative activities over and above those activities prescribed in the activity packs. These could be anything from inviting a guest speaker to the school to hosting a science display evening for parents or visiting one of the Discover Primary Science Centres. More details and suggestions for exploring opportunities will be given in the information packs at the teacher induction days in early 2005.

Keep a discovery log

For all schools participating in Discover Primary Science, a Discovery Log must be kept. This is to record the school's science activities throughout the year. It should contain photos, principal's signature for verification and written accounts by pupils. The log can be in whatever format the school decides including note book, lever arch file or even a CD-Rom. The log will be the most important part of any school's application for an Award of Excellence.

Award of Excellence

Participating schools will be eligible to apply for a Discover Primary Science Award of Excellence when they have met criteria by participating in a range of activities, both prescribed and explorative. These criteria will be detailed in the information packs which teachers will receive at the teacher induction days in early 2005. Participating schools must be able to demonstrate engagement across all required categories in order to apply for the award.



So go ahead...Discover Primary Science!

If you are interested in getting involved in the Discover Primary Science project this year, please register your interest, by completing the on line application form by logging on to www.science.ie/primaryscience or phone 01-607 3184 for assistance. Closing date for registration is 5pm on Friday 17th December 2004.

For further information visit www.science.ie



List of Host Centres

Host Centre	Teacher Induction Date	Host Centre	Teacher Induction Date	Host Centre	Teacher Induction Date
Athlone Institute of Technology	04-Feb-05	Athlone Education Centre	26-Jan-05	University College Cork	04-Feb-05
Institute of Technology Blanchardstown	31-Jan-05	Blackrock Education Centre	10-Feb-05	University College Dublin	10-Feb-05
Carlow Institute of Technology	02-Feb-05	Carrick-on-Shannon Education Centre	08-Feb-05	Dublin City University	03-Feb-05
Cork Institute of Technology	11-Feb-05	Clare Education Centre	04-Feb-05	NUI Galway	31-Jan-05
Dublin Institute of Technology	04-Feb-05	Cork Education Support Centre	04-Feb-05	University of Limerick	08-Feb-05
Dundalk Institute of Technology	01-Feb-05	West Cork Education Centre	02-Feb-05	NUI Maynooth	31-Jan-05
IADT - Dun Laoghaire	02-Feb-05	Donegal Education Centre	02-Feb-05		
Galway/Mayo Institute of Technology	04-Feb-05	Drumcondra Education Centre	03-Feb-05	Marino Institute of Education	28-Jan-05
Letterkenny Institute of Technology	10-Feb-05	Dublin West Education Centre	01-Feb-05	Mary Immaculate College	31-Jan-05
Limerick Institute of Technology	03-Feb-05	Galway Education Centre	04-Feb-05	St Patrick's College, Drumcondra	02-Feb-05
Institute of Technology Sligo	10-Feb-05	Kildare Education Centre	31-Jan-05		
Institute of Technology Tallaght	21-Jan-05	Kilkenny Education Centre	07-Feb-05		
Institute of Technology Tralee	03-Feb-05	Laois Education Centre	10-Feb-05		
Waterford Institute of Technology	02-Feb-05	Limerick Education Centre	09-Feb-05	Killarney National Park Education Centre	02-Feb-05
		Mayo Education Centre	07-Feb-05		
		Monaghan Education Centre	31-Jan-05		
		Navan Education Centre	03-Feb-05		
		Sligo Education Centre	11-Feb-05		
		Tralee Education Centre	07-Feb-05		
		Waterford Teachers' Centre	31-Jan-05		
		<i>will be run in an outreach centre in Clonmel</i>			
		Co Wexford Education Centre	11-Feb-05		

Discover
Science + Engineering

Discover Science & Engineering is the national integrated awareness programme, run by Forfás on behalf of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. The programme brings together the many pre-existing science, engineering, technology and innovation awareness activities previously managed by different bodies, both public and private. The goal of Discover Science & Engineering is to build and expand on these activities and to deliver a more focused, strategic and quantifiable awareness campaign in Ireland. To find out more visit www.science.ie

