

Forthcoming events

For a more extensive list, including events that run all year round, see www.scienceinschool.org/events

5-7 September 2009

Orkney Islands, Scotland, UK

Orkney International Science Festival 2009

A science festival has a radical role in developing a creative climate for a region, especially a remote region such as the Orkneys. This year's festival will take part during the Scottish Homecoming. Saturday 5 September will have various events built around the theme of Robert Burns – his love of nature and of his fellow beings. Burns said it then, and the Earth Charter says it today: we must respect all living beings on Earth.

With a programme of lectures, social events and more, this annual festival is aimed at the general public and most activities are free.

More information: www.oisf.org

5-10 September 2009

Guildford, UK

British Science Festival 2009: Creativity, Innovation & Evolution

The British Science Festival (formerly the BA Festival of Science) is one of Europe's largest science festivals, taking place each September. The festival is in a different location in the UK each year, bringing you the latest in science, technology and engineering. This year's festival is hosted by the University of Surrey in Guildford with events taking place across Surrey.

With loads of events, talks, plays, debates, hands-on activities and more, this year the festival will join the celebrations of Darwin Year and the International Year of Astronomy.

Throughout the festival week, a series of special events for school groups of Key Stage 2 and above is provided.

Among other things, students can explore Earth's atmosphere, discuss important issues with eminent scientists and investigate the best material to make a successful catapult.

Most festival events can be booked through the website.

More information:

www.britishsociety.org/web/BritishScienceFestival

11 September 2009

University of Kassel, Germany

Workshop: Englischsprachiger Biologie- und Chemieunterricht an deutschen Schulen (English-language biology and chemistry lessons in German schools)

Biology and chemistry teachers who teach in English are invited to a free workshop organised by the Verband Biologie, Biowissenschaften & Biomedizin in Deutschland, the Vereinigung der Schulen mit deutsch-englisch bilingualem Zug in Hessen and the Förderverein MNU. English-language teaching materials will be developed in small working groups and presented to all participants. Teachers from outside Germany are warmly welcome.

More information: www.vdbiol.de

Contact: info@vbio.de

18-27 September 2009

Norway

National science week: Research Days (Forskingsdagene)

This is a nationwide event held every year to make science and research available to the public. Research and knowledge institutions throughout Norway participate and provide the general public with new insights into what they do. Events range from science fairs, demonstrations, lectures, 'stand-up scientist' performances, exhibits and discussions, to tours, information stands, and cultural and hands-on activities. Nearly all Forskningsdagene events are available to the public free of charge. This year's events focus on the Darwin anniversary, the International Year of Astronomy and the 150th birthday of Norwegian author Knut Hamsun.

Among others aspects of the event, each year there is a research campaign on a particular theme in which all schools are invited to participate. Participating schools and classes can submit their results online, for evaluation by scientists at the end of the campaign.

More information:

www.forskingsdagene.no

Contact: Emmy Gram Lauvanger (egl@forskingsradet.no) or Sidsel Flock Bachmann (sfb@forskingsradet.no)

18 September – 16 October 2009

Lower Silesia, Poland

Science festival: XII Lower Silesian Science Festival 2009

This festival wants to promote science and its achievements, and outline the

problems it can solve. This year's topic is 'Imagination and thought to go back further than the stars'. The festival will take place in five cities: Wrocław (18-23 September), Legnica (24-25 September), Wałbrzych and Ząbkowice Śląskie (8-9 October), and Jelenia Góra (15-16 October). Among the several hundred events covering all aspects and areas of science, there will be special 'science for kids' activities, as well as scientific marathons and contents for talented students.

More information: www.festiwal.wroc.pl

Contact: festiwal@uni.wroc.pl

19-28 September 2009

Warsaw, Poland

Science festival: XIII festiwal Nauki Warszawa

The goal of this festival is to make people realise that a country's future depends on its ability to use achievements of science as well as their practical applications in everyday life, while not forgetting about the possible dangers resulting from improper use of scientific results. Activities from all areas of science will be offered, aimed at the general public. The festival also offers a special programme for school classes, including lectures and debates, to which prior registration is required.

The application deadline for school classes is 12 September 2009.

More information:

www.festiwalnauki.edu.pl

Contact: festiwal@uw.edu.pl

21-25 September 2009

venues throughout Denmark

Science festival: Danish Science Week 2009

The theme of this year's Danish Science Week is 'Building blocks', which can cover everything from atoms, DNA and evolution, to engineering and building blocks of the Universe. Schools and universities, libraries, museums, science centres and companies, as well as volunteer speakers, are encouraged to take part.

There is a festival package with fun experiments, a festival song, a large mass experiment involving as many people as possible, plus the opportunity to book a scientist speaker for your classroom, visit museums, universities and companies that have prepared a programme for school students, organise a science day at your school, become a teacher contact, and much more.

More information:

www.formidling.dk/sw174.asp

Contact: Pernille Vils Axelsen (pa@formidling.dk)

25 September 2009

Saarbrücken, Germany

Educational fair: EduNetwork 2009

The EduNetwork fair 2009 at Saarbrücken University is organised by THINK ING., MINT-EC and Science on Stage Germany to develop synergies. Lectures and workshops will be held in five subject categories (mathematics, astronomy, nanotechnology, talent, SET in primary school). In an extended break, a fair/exhibition will take place. Everyone interested is welcome.

Detailed information on the fair and how to register can be found on the website.

More information: www.edunetwork.de, www.science-on-stage.de

Contact: info@science-on-stage.de

26 September 2009

Linz, Austria

Researchers' Night: Research is Diversity

The Upper Austrian Researchers' Night aims to present the people behind science – researchers and their world and life. In direct dialogues with successful researchers, visitors can learn more about the diversity behind the word 'research'.

Several research institutes and universities will be open from 7pm to midnight and have prepared a programme. Participation is free.

More information:

www.ooe-forschungsnacht.at

28-30 September 2009

European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany

Training course: ELLS LearningLAB

The European Learning Laboratory for the Life Sciences (ELLS) is an education facility which brings secondary-school teachers into the research lab for a unique hands-on encounter with state-of-the-art molecular biology techniques. ELLS also gives scientists a chance to work with teachers, helping to bridge the widening gap between research and schools.

The three-day course is designed to enable the participating teachers to

explore a range of activities, which they can practise in the lab and then take back to the classroom.

The course is open to 24 European high-school science teachers and is run in English. The course, including course materials and catering, is free of charge; accommodation costs will be partially subsidised. However, participants are expected to meet their own travel costs.

More information: www.embl.de/ells

Contact: ells@embl.de

Until 30 September 2009

Austria

Competition: Hands-on X-Netz

The interactive travelling Science Center Network exhibition 'Erlebnis NETZ[werk]E' (The Net(work) Experience) has been touring Austria since June 2007. To enhance the exhibition, a competition is run for Austrians up to the age of 26, who can submit ideas for interactive exhibition stands on the topic of nets/networks. Selected ideas will be realised and added to the exhibition.

Both the science area and the type of activity (game, experiment, model, hands-on activity, computer animation, quiz, etc.) can be chosen freely. If the jury is convinced your idea is feasible and suitable, you will be awarded €300 as an individual or €500 as a group to run the required research on your project, plus material costs, and you have three months to complete your proposed project, for which you can get help from a list of co-operation partners.

The closing date is 30 September 2009.

More information:

www.science-center-net.at/x-netz

Contact: office@science-center-net.at

October 2009

Brussels, Belgium

Science event: International Space Station Day

As part of its education activities based on the OasISS mission of European astronaut Frank De Winne from Belgium, the European Space Agency (ESA) has organised a school event to look at a day in the life of an astronaut. Belgian students aged 10-12 years will be invited to attend, as part of their prize for winning a competition. Frank De Winne will demonstrate the properties and behaviour of water in the microgravity environment and answer some questions from the children. Other activities during the day will immerse the children in the life of an astronaut on-board the ISS.

Footage from the event will be used to produce a classroom lesson for teachers, which will be available on the ESA website from mid-October. Teachers are invited to check the website for more details, including videos of the astronaut on board the ISS during his six-month mission. These short videos will come with teaching materials on personal hygiene, exercise and fitness and what the astronauts eat and drink.

The event is organised by ESA in collaboration with ESERO (European Space Education Resource Office) Belgium and UNICEF Belgium.

More information:

www.esa.int/esaHS/education.html

Contact: isseducationteam@esa.int

1-31 October 2009

venues across the Netherlands

Science event: October Month of Knowledge (Oktober Kennismaand)

This month-long event brought together more than 250 000 people in 2008, who took part in over 700 activities to bring science and technology closer to the public. Universities, research institutes, observatories, companies, museums and libraries will again open their doors for young

and old in 2009, under the theme 'Reis naar het onbekende' (Travel to the unknown), featuring Darwin Year and the International Year of Astronomy.

This is a free and unique event for teachers and students. Educational materials are available online, as well as a newsletter for which teachers can register, and a list of events suitable for children.

More information:

www.oktoberkennismaand.nl

Contact: info@oktoberkennismaand.nl

15-17 October 2009

Europa Park, Rust, Germany

Event for schools: Science Days

Europa Park in Rust, one of Germany's biggest theme parks, will host the Science Days, which in 2008 fascinated more than 22 000 visitors. The main topics for this year will be climate and space expedition.

To promote the understanding of science and technology, the Förderverein Science and Technology eV has invited more than 100 institutions to offer workshops, hands-on experiments, science shows, and other activities.

For teachers and school classes, there is a special programme including a preparatory meeting and a tailored information package. Registration is required. The working language is German.

More information: www.science-days.de

Contact: *Susanne Frey*

(frey@science-house.de)

15-22 October 2009

Kaurialan lukio, Hämeenlinna, Finland

International Science Week

The International Science Week in Hämeenlinna, Finland, offers an exciting and versatile scientific programme (physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology and geography) with social and cultural activities for ten students, aged 16-18, and two teachers from each of three selected coun-

tries. The students will be accommodated by Finnish host families and the teachers will stay in a hotel nearby in the centre of the town of Hämeenlinna. The programme has been planned by the teachers of the Kauriala Upper Secondary School (Kaurialan lukio).

The registration deadline is 22 February 2009.

Contact: Paula Perkkalainen
(paula.perkkalainen@hameenlinna.fi) or
Sakari Salonen
(sakari.salonen@hameenlinna.fi)

21-23 October 2009

European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Monterotondo, Italy Training course: ELLS LearningLAB

The European Learning Laboratory for the Life Sciences (ELLS) is an education facility which brings secondary-school teachers into the research lab for a unique hands-on encounter with state-of-the-art molecular biology techniques. ELLS also gives scientists a chance to work with teachers, helping to bridge the widening gap between research and schools.

The three-day course is designed to enable the participating teachers to explore a range of activities, which they can practise in the lab and then take back to the classroom.

The course is open to 24 European high-school science teachers and is run in English. The course, including course materials and catering, is free of charge; accommodation costs will be partially subsidised. However, participants are expected to meet their own travel costs.

More information:
www.embl-monterotondo.it/training/ells/learninglab

Contact: ells@embl.de

23 October - 1 November 2009

Genoa, Italy Science festival: *Festivale della Scienza*

This annual festival is a chance for researchers, science lovers, schools and families to meet. Meetings, workshops, shows and conferences are among the events organised. There are dedicated events for school groups, and in September, a short series of presentations in Genoa, Piedmont and Lombardy will provide teachers with a preview of these events. Schools in Genoa can also register as partner schools of the festival, to interview a scientist and host a class from another city during the festival.

More information: www.festivalscienza.it
Contact: info@festivalscienza.it

November 2009

Madrid, Spain Science week: *Semana de la Ciencia*

For one week every November, over 250 participating institutions offer guided tours, conferences, round tables, debates, workshops, demonstrations, science paths, archaeological, architectural and geological routes, exhibitions, competitions and science movies, with about 2000 scientists taking part. Science centres, universities, companies, public bodies, hospitals, societies, professional colleges and other entities are asked to propose their own programmes.

Activities suitable for primary- and secondary-school groups will be listed separately.

More information:
www.madrimasd.org/semanaciencia
Contact: semanaciencia@madrimasd.org

2-8 November 2009

venues throughout the Czech Republic

Science festival: *9th Czech Science and Technology Week*

Each year at the beginning of November, the Science and Technology Week is held as one of the largest science communication events in the Czech Republic, presenting the latest scientific achievements and current research approaches. It is organised by the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in the framework of the European Science Week.

It is aimed at the general public and offers lectures, public debates, exhibitions, open days at science institutes, hands-on activities and much more.

More information:
<http://press.avcr.cz/tyden-vedy-a-techniky>

6-7 November 2009

Heidelberg, Germany Conference: *Food, sustainability & plant science: a global challenge*

The 10th EMBO/EMBL Science & Society Conference examines the future of sustainable agriculture from the perspectives of plant science, technology and society. How can science contribute to global challenges such as how to feed a growing population, climate change and biological threats to yields? How can individuals determine if new technologies are safe and effective in the battle against hunger? School classes are welcome to participate, and school students get free entry. To register, visit:

http://events.embl.org/iEBMS/reg/reg_p1_form.aspx?oc=10&ct=NORMAL&eventid=5019

More information:
www.embo.org/policy-and-society/science-society/conferences/2009.html

8-15 November 2009

venues throughout Ireland

Science festival: Science Week

Science Week is Ireland's biggest annual promotion of science to the general public. It is co-ordinated by the Discover Science & Engineering programme and offers a large variety of lecture series, essay and photo competitions, shows and many other events across the whole country. Special activity packs are available for both primary- and secondary-school teachers.

More information: www.scienceweek.ie

Contact: scienceweek@forfas.ie

9-13 November 2009

Daugavpils, Latvia

Science festival: 4th Daugavpils Science Festival

For the fourth year, Daugavpils University will host a science festival aiming to popularise science and demonstrate that it can be understood by everyone. There will be lectures, competitions, discussions, hands-on activities, workshops, exhibitions, tours of science institutes and more. There will also be special activities aimed at teachers and students.

More information:

www.zinatnesfestivals.lv

Contact: Diana Soldane
diana.soldane@du.lv

12-15 November 2009

Luxembourg

Science festival

The seventh science festival will take place in 2009 at the Cultural Centre, Neumünster Abbey and the National Museum of Natural History, Luxembourg-Grund. Interactivity is the key word – the exhibited objects demand the visitor's attention. Nowhere will there be signs saying "Do not touch"; on the contrary, there will be inviting notices saying "Do touch and experiment with everything". Without participation there is no result! The whole family is invited to discover science by using all their senses.

More information:

www.science-festival.lu

Contact: Monique Kirsch
(mkirsch@mnhn.lu), Patrick Delhalt
(pdelhalt@mnhn.lu)

13 November 2009

Schoollab network GenaU, Berlin, Germany

Teacher training workshop: Interdisciplinary

Organised by Science on Stage Germany and financed by the Technologiestiftung Berlin, this half-day workshop (3-6pm) presents two projects.

The German project, 'If colours become a health problem – coloured T-shirts with colours of plants', began with a newspaper article about the recall of children's clothing containing harmful dyes. The students then researched which dyes have been and continue to be important and which harmless dyes could be used instead. The subjects covered in the project include biology (e.g. microscopy, cell structure, location of pigments in the cell, chromatography), chemistry (experimental design, isolating pigments and dyes, optimising pigment extraction, methods of dying and fixing), physics (what is colour, colour perception, additive and subtractive colour mixing), history (the development of dyes, cultural significance of

colours), and art (the meaning of colour, designing the T-shirt).

The Austrian 'Smoking prevention project', originally presented in a basic form at Science on Stage 2 in Grenoble, France, uses the 'Smoking prevention lab' to discourage 14- to 18-year-old students from smoking. The affordable device – developed together with school students – helps to visualise and explain the effects of smoking on pulse rate, blood flow and blood pressure as well as on the temperature of fingers, without the students having to smoke.

The working languages are German and (in part) English. Participation is free; interested teachers should register by email by 30 October 2009.

More information:

www.scienceonstage.de

Contact: info@science-on-stage.de

16-22 November 2009

venues throughout France

Science festival: La Fête de la Science

Organised by the French Ministry of higher education and research, this science festival is a free event relying on enthusiastic people to communicate and share their love of science. This year's topic is 'The origins of life and the Universe: what evolutions, what revolutions?' to celebrate both Darwin Year and the International Year of Astronomy.

It is aimed at the general public and offers exhibitions, workshops, visits to labs, natural and industrial sites, meetings between scientists and young people, science cafés, debates, conferences, shows, and much more.

More information:

www.fetedelascience.fr

Contact: Anne Launois
(anne.launois@recherche.gouv.fr)

Until 30 November 2009

Austria/Switzerland/Italy

Student competition: Explora! 2009/2010 – Young scientists wanted!

The German- and Italian-speaking border regions of Austria, Switzerland and Italy (Graubünden, Südtirol, Tirol, Trentino) are organising a science competition for students aged 16 to 20 who live or go to school in one of these regions. Up to five people per participating group can submit scientific projects, preferably interdisciplinary ones, in biology, chemistry, physics, geography, geology, ecology, Egyptology, informatics, mathematics, nutrition technology, computer science, history, philosophy, literature, social sciences, linguistics, economy, tourism, art or music. Parents and teachers are allowed to help, and there's a list of partner institutes that offer guidance.

The working languages are German, Italian or English, including a summary in English. The registration deadline is 30 November 2009, and the deadline for submissions is 29 January 2010 at 1pm. Up to eight projects will win prizes between €1500 and €4000.

More information:

www.explora-science.net

Contact: explora@eurac.edu

3-5 December 2009

Naples, Italy

Conference: VIII Convegno Nazionale sulla Comunicazione della Scienza

The ICS (Innovations in the Communication of Science) group of the SISSA (Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati, International Higher Education School) in Trieste is organising the VIII National Conference on Science Communication in collaboration with the IDIS – Città della Scienza (Naples science centre). Projects and experiences with science communication as well as research on the subject will be presented.

The deadline for abstract submission is 1 June 2009 and the working language is Italian.

More information:

<http://ics.sissa.it/index.php?lingua=IT&pg=7&area=1>

Contact: [Donato Ramani \(cncs@sissa.it\)](mailto:Donato.Ramani@cncs@sissa.it)

Until 31 December 2009

Austria

Competition: Hands-on X-Netz

The interactive travelling Science Center Network exhibition 'Erlebnis NETZ[werk]E' (The Net(work) Experience) has been touring Austria since June 2007. To enhance the exhibition, a competition is run for Austrians up to the age of 26, who can submit ideas for interactive exhibition stands on the topic of nets/networks. Selected ideas will be realised and added to the exhibition.

Both the science area and the type of activity (game, experiment, model, hands-on activity, computer animation, quiz, etc.) can be chosen freely. If the jury is convinced your idea is feasible and suitable, you will be awarded €300 as an individual or €500 as a group to run the required research on your project, plus material costs, and you have three months to complete your proposed project, for which you can get help from a list of co-operation partners.

The closing date is 31 December 2009.

More information:

www.science-center-net.at/x-netz

Contact: office@science-center-net.at

If you organise events or competitions that would be of interest to European science teachers and you would like to see them mentioned in *Science in School*, please email details – including date, location, title, abstract, price, language, registration deadline, website and contact email address – to editor@scienceinschool.org.