

More information

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Scitech's STEM Club at North Cottesloe Primary School

Students at North Cottesloe Primary School have dived deeply into STEM learning experiences with Scitech's 16-week extracurricular STEM Club.

This intensive after school program was developed in partnership with Woodside and is designed to immerse year 4 to 6 students in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) concepts through fun hands-on projects with imaginative themes.

Schools can choose between two streams of activities – 'Tinker and Create' where students explore creative problem-solving using tools and household items, and 'Robotics and Tech' where students learn about coding and mechatronics.

North Cottesloe Primary School students took part in the 'Tinker and Create' stream, exploring the design process of 'think, build, test'. They created projects ranging from wearable tech to automatons, gliders and rubber band-powered machines which utilise stored potential energy.

Kalien Selby, Scitech Chief Executive Officer, said "STEM Club is the result of listening to what parents and students want and delivering a tailor-made learning experience that truly engages and inspires."

"Students wanted to go deeper into STEM concepts, building a solid foundation for their learning journey. So, we combined core subject knowledge such as physics, engineering and robotics with 21st century skills of problem solving, critical and creative thinking, to provide a truly integrated approach to STEM learning. This contemporary approach is proving extremely successful, with the program rolling out to primary schools across Perth."

The 'Tinker and Create' stream contains four x four-week modules:

- Simple Machines where students design and construct their own automaton;
- Take to the Skies investigates concepts of flight where students design, build and test a glider;
- Electrifying Circuits explores electrical energy from simple circuits in toys to wearable tech, and students design their own electrifying projects;
- Motion and Energy shows students how to build machines powered by stored potential energy.

The 'Robotics and Tech' stream contains two x eight-week modules:

- Edison Robotics where students learn different ways of programming a small robot to solve problems;
- Animatronics where students design and build a moving sculpture controlled by a microcontroller.

STEM Club is an update of Scitech's Science After School, a four-week program delivered in partnership with Woodside since 2004. Due to overwhelming positive feedback and increased requests for longer periods of activity, the STEM Club initiative was developed in 2018 to offer four times the previous amount of engagement.