

MEDIA RELEASE 12 March 2021

More information

Susan Hoerlein Public Affairs & Communications Specialist

p (08) 9215 0733 **m** 0422 553 343 **e** susan.hoerlein@scitech.org.au

Scitech Brings Physical Sciences to the Northern Wheatbelt

Students at 10 Northern Wheatbelt primary schools have tested – and defied - the Rules of the Universe when Scitech toured the region with physical science shows and workshops from 1 - 12 March.

Scitech presenters conducted experiments that included demonstrating the nature of motion using the wonders inside a toy box, to ignite curiosity and excitement about science, engineering, technology and maths (STEM).

Kalien Selby, Scitech Chief Executive Officer, said "The Primary Science tour is part of Scitech's ongoing commitment to bring STEM skills and knowledge to regional and remote communities in Western Australia. If 75% of the fastest growing jobs need STEM skills, then 100% of students need access to integrated STEM learning, to be ready to seize the opportunities of the future workforce."

"Thanks to the support of our program partner Rio Tinto, we continue our mission to engage and inspire Western Australians in STEM, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic".

Covering a range of physical sciences, the tour's 'Move It' sessions cater for students from Kindergarten to Year 3, with student scientists exploring how various objects move depending on their size, shape and surroundings. 'Prove It' sessions are aimed at Years 4 – 6 and encourage students to explore and test the laws of physics.

In 2020, COVID-19 led to a shift in Scitech's touring schedule; however, regional schools were swift to book a visit from Scitech's inspiring science presenters once restrictions were eased.

In Terms 3 and 4 of 2020, Scitech visited over 80 regional schools and communities and the distinctive red trucks travelled over 9 000km throughout the state to ensure continuity in bringing STEM engagement and inspiration to all Western Australians.

This compares to 2019 and pre-pandemic times, when Scitech visited over 120 regional communities and the Scitech trucks travelled over 100 000 kilometres across Western Australia.

For the 2021 Northern Wheatbelt Primary Science tour, Scitech visited Perenjori Primary School, Morawa District High School, Dalwallinu District High School, Kalannie Primary School, Toodyay District High School, Sacred Heart School, Goomalling Primary School, Calingiri Primary School, Yerecoin Primary School and Bolgart Primary School.