

Scitech's STEM Club arrives at local primary schools

Students of Belmont Primary School and St Pius X Catholic Primary in Manning will be immersing themselves in interactive learning as Scitech's STEM Club arrives this month.

The Scitech STEM Club, delivered in partnership with Woodside, is an extra-curricular program combining core science knowledge with the development of 21st century skills. Year 4 to 6 students will take a deep dive into science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) through imaginative themes, hands-on interactive activities and skills-building projects.

Belmont Primary School students will be taking part in the Tinker & Create program, where participants construct cardboard automata over four weeks.

Students of St Pius X Catholic Primary will be taking part in the Robotics & Technology program where they will construct straw rockets, paper planes and balsa wood gliders.

At STEM club, Scitech's highly trained presenters will empower students to draw on their existing experiences, build their conceptual understanding and learn through building.

Kalien Selby, Scitech Chief Executive Officer, says this contemporary approach to learning has been an extremely successful initiative in primary schools across Perth:

“STEM Club has been running successfully in conjunction with our program partner, Woodside, around Perth for 17 years, and is continuously re-designed with feedback from teachers, parents and students. The engagement and imagination we see from students in these sessions is truly outstanding.”

“What really makes the STEM Club unique is the way it is delivered. We have carefully designed this program to encourage students to explore solutions and focus on problem solving. Together, we create a safe and supportive environment where there are opportunities for reflection – on successes and failures. It is really important to facilitate spaces where students can problem solve and create their own solutions, as opposed to just applying existing knowledge.”

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

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More information

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More information about STEM Club.

Schools can choose between two streams of activities. The 'Tinker and Create' stream contains four x four-week modules:

- Simple Machines enables students to design and construct their own automata;
- 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; and
- 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; and
- Animatronics, where students design and build a moving sculpture controlled by a microcontroller.