



scitech

Impact Report 2024-25



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Acknowledgement of Country

Scitech respectfully acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, who are the traditional owners of the land on which our Discovery Centre and offices are located. We are honoured to be welcomed as guests on lands in regional and remote areas across Western Australia.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first scientists, and value their knowledge as engineers, problem-solvers and innovators of this land. We pay our respects to the Elders past and present.

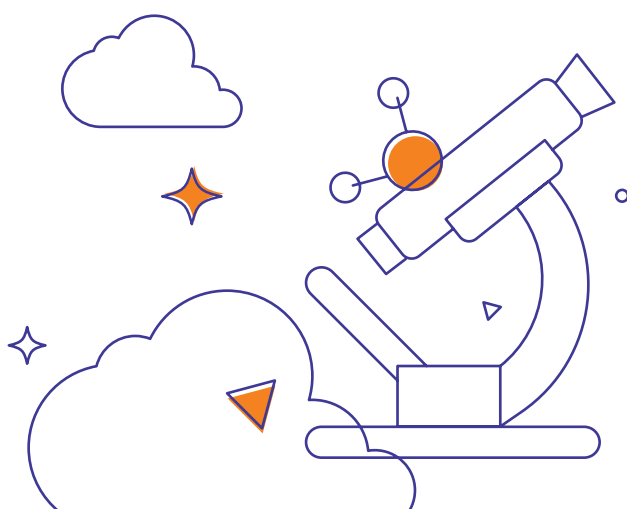


Artwork:

Connecting Through the Cosmos by Yamatji, Karrajarri, Noongar and Māori artist Jarnda Councillor-Barns.

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Purpose

To inspire engagement by all Western Australians in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Values

Passion

We are passionate about Scitech and our purpose. This passion is the energy that inspires our excellence.

Respect

We are honest, respectful and look out for each other's well-being. We foster a supportive community by being open-minded and welcoming of people of all ages, genders, abilities and cultural backgrounds.

Innovation

We encourage innovation and creativity. We learn and grow by working together.

Fun

We share the fun we have at work by including each other and the community, engaging our own curiosity and encouraging it in others.

Sustainability

We minimise our environmental footprint, responsibly using our resources and energy.



Scitech 2030 Strategy

Scitech's 2030 strategy sets out a vision on how we will support Western Australians with STEM capabilities and encourage STEM awareness which can deliver long-term economic, environmental and social benefits, and forms the basis for this report.

With the rise of new technologies in biomedicine, microfabrication, robotics and artificial intelligence, the ability to understand and apply data, and develop solutions to complex problems, will be essential job and life skills. Many of the children who interact with Scitech programs today will enter a workforce that includes jobs that do not yet exist.

The 2030 Strategy aims to deliver four key outcomes of inspired and engaged Western Australians, more confident and capable teachers and students, parents engaging in STEM discussions at home and a more informed public.

We will achieve these outcomes through key drivers of Inspire & Engage, Develop & Nurture and Connect & Collaborate which form the foundations of our impact in the community.

By encouraging greater awareness of STEM, digital technologies in society and children taking up STEM careers, we can safeguard our future and deliver economic, environmental and social benefits to all Western Australians.

Strategic Priorities





CEO Report

At Scitech, we have always embraced the future – not as a distant concept, but as something we shape together through science, technology, and education. This year, we took steps to deepen our impact across Western Australia and beyond, empowering our community with the tools to not only understand our world, but change it for the better.

In 2024-25 we launched the Perth 2050 report, developed in collaboration with the Committee for Perth and futurist Dr Ben Hamer. Informed by the Perth community and industry experts, it paints a compelling vision of the future and reminds us that our success hinges on the choices we make today – especially in ensuring that young people are equipped with STEM skills, digital literacy, and a passion for lifelong learning.

To help spark that early engagement with STEM, we are excited to be nearing the launch of Here, There and Everywhere, our biggest gallery transformation to date. Designed and built onsite at Scitech, the 17 new exhibits invite visitors to explore how science and technology are tackling real-world challenges in our everyday lives, our state, and around the world.

Looking ahead, we are planning for how Scitech will provide Western Australians with a world-class science centre for decades to come. In April, we welcomed the federal government's commitment of \$100 million to support a major upgrade of the Scitech Discovery Centre. We are grateful to both the state and federal governments for their ongoing support and look forward to working together to create a forever home for Scitech.

Understanding Scitech's reach and influence is vital in ensuring we meet the needs of the community we serve. That's why, in partnership with the University of Western Australia, we undertook a study into Scitech's social impact. We found that Scitech supports people across the entire science capital spectrum. Whether we're nurturing an existing passion or igniting curiosity in someone who doesn't see themselves as a "science person," we are committed to ensuring every Western Australian has the opportunity to engage with STEM.

This year also marked a key milestone in our reconciliation journey, with the release of our first Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). Our RAP outlines our commitment to fostering a workplace that celebrates diversity, promotes inclusivity, and respects the cultures, histories, and contributions of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We are incredibly privileged to be welcomed into Aboriginal communities, and this year we visited 12 remote Kimberley schools to deliver hands-on science workshops for students and teachers. In addition to this, our Statewide program engaged 51,895 primary and secondary students, ensuring young people everywhere have access to hands-on science learning.

Scitech's reach is increasingly growing beyond WA. With recent visits to Hong Kong and India, we are proud to represent Western Australian science on the world stage. We also launched Mission: SPACE, our first national program funded by the Australian Space Agency, which will inspire students across Australia to explore careers in the space industry.

None of this would be possible without the extraordinary efforts of our dedicated team, volunteers, and partners. Your passion, innovation and creativity are reflected in the outstanding achievements in this report – thank you.



Dr John Chappell
Scitech Chief Executive Officer

Highlights

299,048

People visited Scitech
Discovery Centre



113,892

Students, teachers and Western
Australians engaged with Scitech through
their school or in the community



36,000km

Travelled across regional tours



30,874

Primary & Secondary students
took part in school excursions



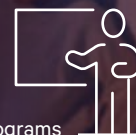
2,369

Students reached through
the Aboriginal Education Program



2,783

Teacher engagements in
Professional Learning Programs



1.2

million
digital STEM
engagements



180,913

Audience reach across Particle platforms

10

Scitech exhibitions were
touring internationally





Evaluating Scitech's social impact on the WA community

How do we measure our impact in a world that is often complicated and contextual? Scitech collaborated with The University of Western Australia's Science Communication unit to take a deeper dive into understanding Scitech's social impact.

The pilot study used the conceptual framework of 'science capital' as a lens to understand the relationship between Scitech and people's science engagement. Science capital refers to the science-related knowledge, attitudes, behaviours and experiences people accumulate throughout their life. People draw on their science capital in different science-related spaces, supporting their confidence and capability.

The research found that Scitech engages and welcomes people with all levels of science capital. For some, it's a place where they can deeply explore

their existing passion for science and share that with their children. For others, Scitech may be the only place where they recognise they are engaging in science.

The research highlights how important it is for content, experiences, and programs to remain flexible enough for people with all levels of science capital to continue to feel like they belong in science spaces.

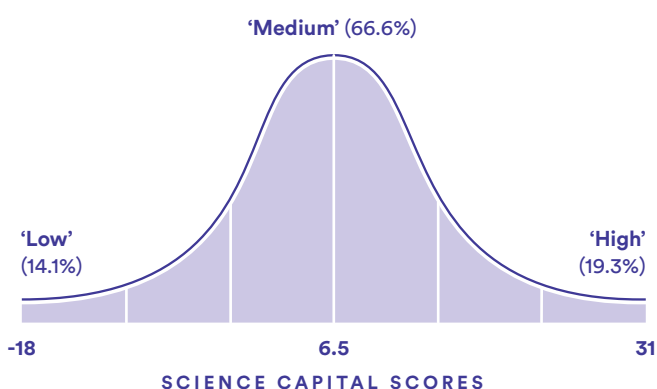
Scitech's relationship with science capital



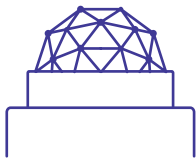
Scitech engages visitors with *all* levels of science capital.

No significant relationship was found between participants' levels of science capital and visiting the Scitech Discovery Centre.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS (n=658)



What was linked to higher science capital?



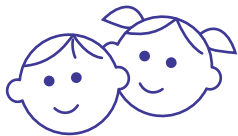
Recent visits

The most recent visitors to the Discovery Centre had higher science capital. Frequency of visits showed no impact.



Scitech membership

Having a Scitech membership, and increasing membership length, were both linked to higher science capital.



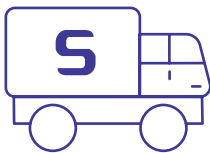
Childhood visits

More frequent childhood visits to or by Scitech were linked to having higher science capital.



Online content

Engaging with Scitech's online content was linked to having higher science capital.



Community events

Seeing Scitech at community events was linked to higher science capital, regardless of the length of time since the engagement.



Adults only events

Attending Scitech Adults Only events linked to having higher science capital.

Right now, we cannot say that higher science capital causes people to engage with Scitech more, or vice versa. We just know there's a link.

Why do adults visit Scitech?

LOW SCIENCE CAPITAL

Exclusively to encourage or develop an interest in science in their children or grandchildren.

MEDIUM SCIENCE CAPITAL

A combination of encouraging their children's or students' interest in science and nurturing their personal science interests.

HIGH SCIENCE CAPITAL

To nurture their innate interest and curiosity about the world and how it works, and share that passion for science with their children or students.

“

What I like about [Scitech] is how it exposes my kid to science and may trigger an interest in them.

The interaction with the science exhibits to me is the most memorable part, when the exhibit forces you to involve two people to then engage with it. That connection with my daughter is what's most memorable.

Every time we go, we all walk away with something new that we didn't know before.

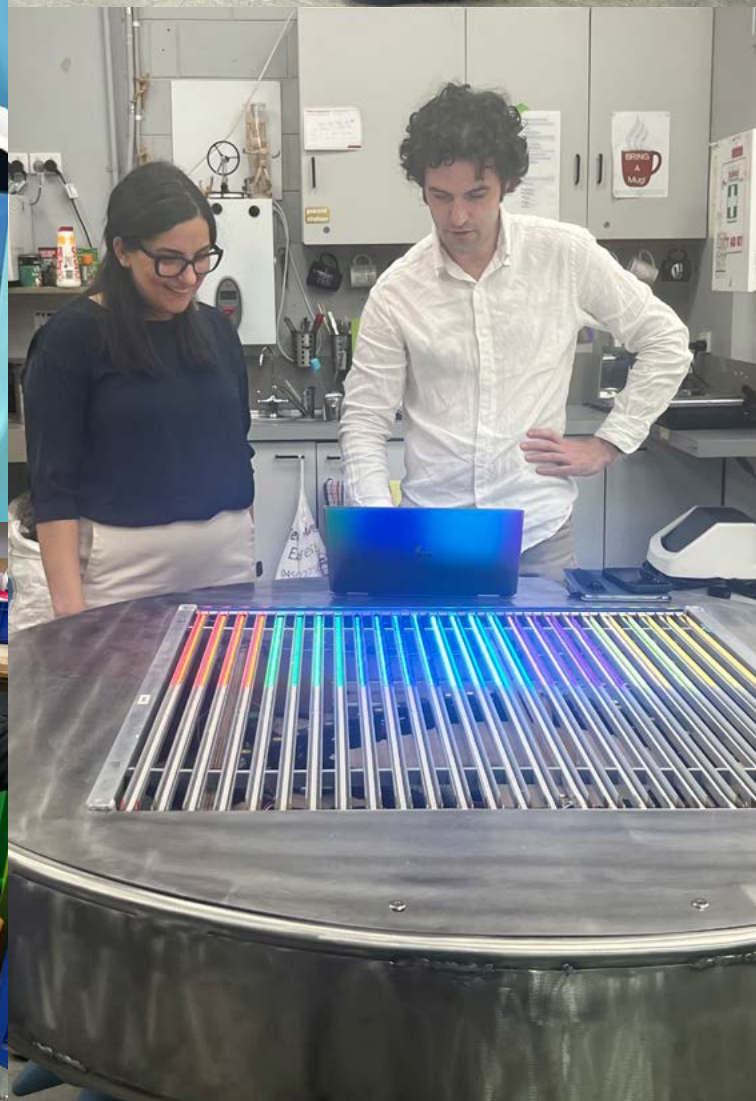
I really would like it to be known that it really has sort of multi-generational impact. It's been around for so long. It's a Perth institution, it's an awesome place to sort of just take the kids out for the day, but it's also an incredible place to actually support and promote science and STEM in the community.





Inspire and Engage

We know that people learn best when they are engaged. Scitech is leveraging curiosity, wonder, excitement, play and interaction to engage our audiences in STEM.



Here, There and Everywhere: Our biggest transformation yet

In 2024-2025, Scitech made significant progress on our largest exhibit transformation in Scitech's history.

The Here, There and Everywhere gallery features 17 new exhibits, inviting visitors to explore how science and technology solves challenges in our bodies, homes, the Western Australian community, and the world. The majority of exhibits were designed and built onsite at Scitech, transforming the permanent central gallery.

Whether it's through discovering what life might be like using a cochlear implant, exploring how light pollution is changing our view of the night sky and impacting wildlife, or launching a hydrogen rocket to uncover how technology is supporting the world's changing energy demands, the new gallery aims to inspire curiosity and lifelong learning in STEM.

As part of the Here, There and Everywhere development, Scitech collaborated with industry and research partners to bring the latest Western Australian innovation and research to life for visitors. We would like to thank major supporter Lotterywest, the Western Australian Government, and our valued partners and supporters:

Major Supporters

Western Australian Government Department of Energy and Economic Diversification (DEED)
Lotterywest

Partners

Astrotourism WA
Australian Government Department of Industry, Science and Resources
Australian SKA Regional Centre (AusSRC)
CBH Group
CSIRO
International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR)
Pawsey Supercomputing Research Centre

SKA Observatory (SKAO)

Wajarri Yamaji

Western Australian Government Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)

Western Australian Government Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), acting for the Waste Authority

Contributors

Aurecon

Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)

Biofab

Cancer Council of WA

Containers For Change

Deaf Connect

Reeddi

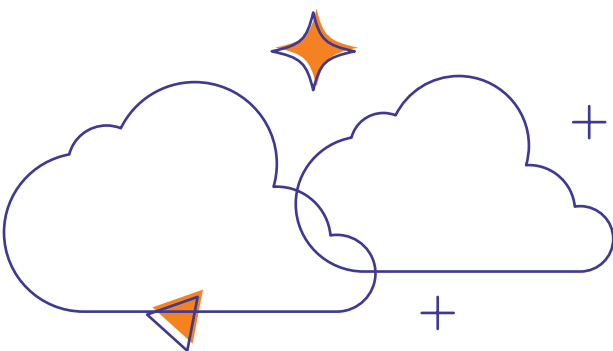
The Kids Research Institute Australia

Uluu

Here, There and Everywhere officially opens in September 2025.

Here, There and Everywhere exhibits installed in 2024-2025

11





A piece of space history finds a new home at Scitech

During National Science Week 2024, we unveiled a new exhibit at the Scitech Discovery Centre – a piece of space debris that had washed up on a beach near Green Head, 250 kilometres north of Perth, a year earlier.

Thanks to generous support from the Western Australian Government, Minister Stephen Dawson, and the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification, this rare artefact of space exploration is now on permanent display.

Scitech created an exhibit to display the space debris, telling the story of its role in a rocket launch to its dramatic fall back to Earth, and its remarkable voyage across ocean currents before landing on our shores.

Thanks to the ongoing funding and support from the Western Australian Government, we began redeveloping the planetarium foyer to create a dynamic introduction to Western Australia's growing space industries. This new space will showcase local expertise, innovation, and opportunities in the sector, helping visitors connect global space exploration to what's happening here at home.

“

Along with every Western Australian, we were fascinated by the story of this object washing up on our shores. It's a privilege to now offer the community the chance to see it for themselves and understand its role in space exploration.

Dr John Chappell, Scitech CEO

Students explore science beyond the classroom

A Scitech excursion gives students from Kindergarten to Year 10 the opportunity to have an immersive and tangible experience of science not possible in the classroom.

Our excursion program not only supports and consolidates the curriculum material, it also gets students to be active participants in their science learning, showing them the connection between what they learn at school and its application in the real world.

We support student learning by providing a science communicator to facilitate the experience, and offer hands-on workshops and challenges, planetarium shows, science shows, and free time to explore the exhibits.

Evaluation data from 2024-25 showed that 95% of teachers agreed their Scitech excursion motivated students to want to know, learn and do more. In addition, 91% of teachers thought the activities demonstrated that science is relevant to students and highlighted everyday applications in society.

Teacher feedback

“Students were excited and engaged with what science has to offer, and they came away with lots of questions and wanting to know more.”

Primary school students engaged in the Scitech Discovery Centre

25,788

Secondary school students engaged in the Scitech Discovery Centre

5,086

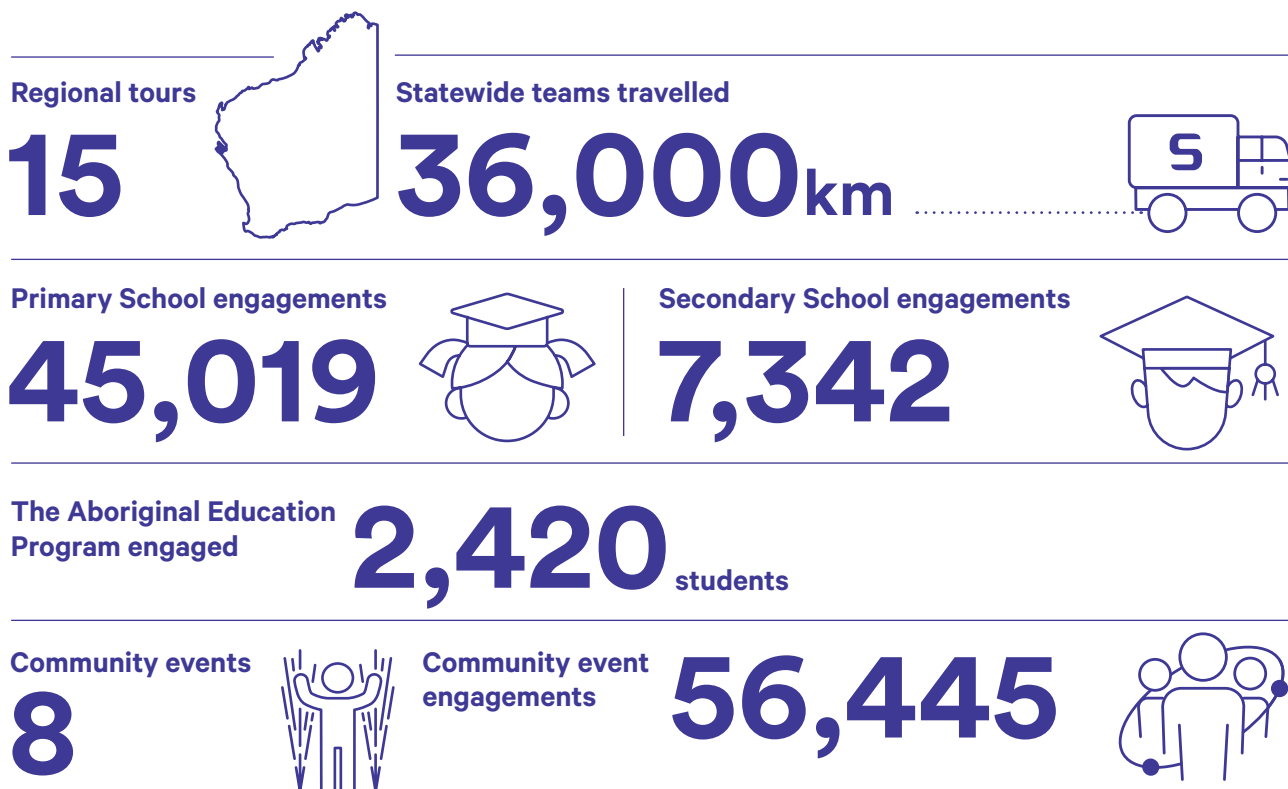




Bringing science to every corner of WA

For those who live in the Perth metropolitan area, Scitech is often synonymous with the Scitech Discovery Centre in West Perth. However, we know that for many Western Australian students, access to the Discovery Centre isn't possible due to location or financial barriers. That's why we take our science workshops, shows and experiences on the road to regional and remote Western Australian schools.

We also look for opportunities to engage with the community outside of the Scitech Discovery Centre, in Perth and beyond. Scitech's presence at community events allows us to introduce new audiences to the fun and interactivity of a Scitech experience, providing families a chance to play, learn, connect and find their love of science.





School incursions

Our school engagement program visits each regional and remote primary school every three years to ensure students across the state get to experience science that is fun, interactive, and relevant to them and their everyday life. Regular collaboration with the School of the Air allows further isolated students to experience hands-on science lessons through virtual workshops.

Teacher feedback

“The most valuable aspect of Scitech’s visit was the hands-on activities. Every student was actively involved and engaged, which made the experience both interactive and memorable.”

“We live so far away from Scitech that it would not be possible for us to visit and therefore our students would not have the same opportunity to develop curiosity and wonder as they did with the incursion.”

“Being in the Goldfields we are often limited in what we can access in real time and so I am very grateful for the team who made the effort to come out and engage my students so well in activities surrounding STEM.”

The Aboriginal Education Program

In 2024-25, Scitech’s Aboriginal Education Program brought hands-on science learning to 12 remote community schools across the East Kimberley. Supported by the Toyota Community Trust, the tour covered thousands of kilometres by road and air, delivering engaging STEM experiences to students and professional learning for teachers.

Workshops focused on hands-on activities that encouraged understanding through doing, such as insect investigations using microscopes and collaborative science experiments. Scitech also delivered professional learning workshops and provided physical resources to extend teachers’ skills and confidence.

The East Kimberley tour was part of Scitech’s ongoing commitment to engaging all Western Australians in science. Our aim is to inspire, build confidence, create fun memories, and encourage teachers and students to continue their science journeys. In 2025-2026 Scitech will visit another 13 remote community schools in the West Kimberley.

“My favourite thing was catching all the bugs and looking through the little goggles to see what they looked like close up.”

Bridget James, age 10, Dawul Remote Community School



Community events

At Scitech, we believe science belongs not just in classrooms and labs, but in parks, festivals, and showgrounds where the community gathers to connect and celebrate. Our community activations bring science to life with transportable exhibits, lawn activities, live demonstrations and, most importantly, the energy of our passionate science communicators.

In 2024–25, we were proud to share the wonder of STEM with tens of thousands of Western Australians at some of the state's most iconic events.

Perth Royal Show

The Perth Royal Show was once again a highlight of our outreach calendar. Across the eight-day event, we delivered an exciting mix of hands-on exhibits, interactive activities, and pop-up science shows to more than 24,000 visitors.

WA Day

At the Celebrate WA festival in Burswood, our travelling science exhibits and activities found a home beside the iconic Optus Stadium. More than 3,300 people stopped to experiment, play, and discover the role of science in everyday life.

Mandurah Crabfest

Mandurah Crabfest 2025 brought together thousands for one of the Peel region's biggest events, and we were there to add fun science experiences to the family entertainment precinct. Visitors were captivated by our hands-on exhibits and wowed by liquid nitrogen shows, enjoyed by 7,452 festivalgoers.





Scitech goes virtual for National Science Week

Scitech transformed our National Science Week excursions by trialling virtual excursions for the first time in 2024, bringing hands-on STEM experiences directly to classrooms across Western Australia.

Recognising the need to reach regional and remote communities during National Science Week, we launched Sustainability Explorers Virtual Excursions, which were open to all primary schools and tailored for students and their teachers in Years 3 to 6.

Over four dynamic 45-minute sessions, students explored vital ecosystems, aligning with the National Science Week theme of Species Survival. Each session offered science demonstrations, expert interviews, and interactive quizzes, all streamed live by two of our enthusiastic science communicators.

A highlight of the program was the opportunity for students to engage with real-world scientists and conservation experts. Special guests included UWA Oceans Institute's Katarina Doughty, Saving Our

Snake-Necked Turtles' Anthony Santoro, UWA Apiary Manager Tiffane Bates, and Gareth Catt from the Indigenous Desert Alliance. These firsthand insights inspired students to imagine their own futures in STEM careers, making the science real, relevant, and exciting.

Participating teachers shared that the excursions sparked lively discussions, prompted deeper learning, and led to requests for session recordings for further classroom use.

On the back of the success of Sustainability Explorers, Scitech has partnered with the Australian Space Agency to deliver Mission: SPACE virtual excursions to a national audience as part of 2025 National Science Week celebrations.

Participating schools

101

Students engaged

11,426

Regional students

36%

83%

of teachers agreed "it was a unique experience that I could not replicate in the classroom."

Scitech exhibitions around the world

After inspiring visitors at the Scitech Discovery Centre, our feature exhibitions travel to science centres around the world, showcasing Western Australian exhibit design and engaging approximately 1 million people each year.

Scitech has 10 exhibitions touring internationally, all designed and built in our onsite workshop, and hired by science centres across Asia, the Middle East and North America. International touring is valuable in creating partnerships with other science museums, expanding Scitech's outreach and promoting WA as a leader in science and innovation.

International touring also provides an important revenue source for Scitech as a not-for-profit organisation, helping to fund new exhibitions, shows, statewide outreach, and professional learning for educators. Global success feeds directly back into our state, sustaining Scitech's ability to deliver world-class STEM learning for Western Australians.

Travelling Exhibitions

10

Locations Exhibitions visited

12







Develop and Nurture

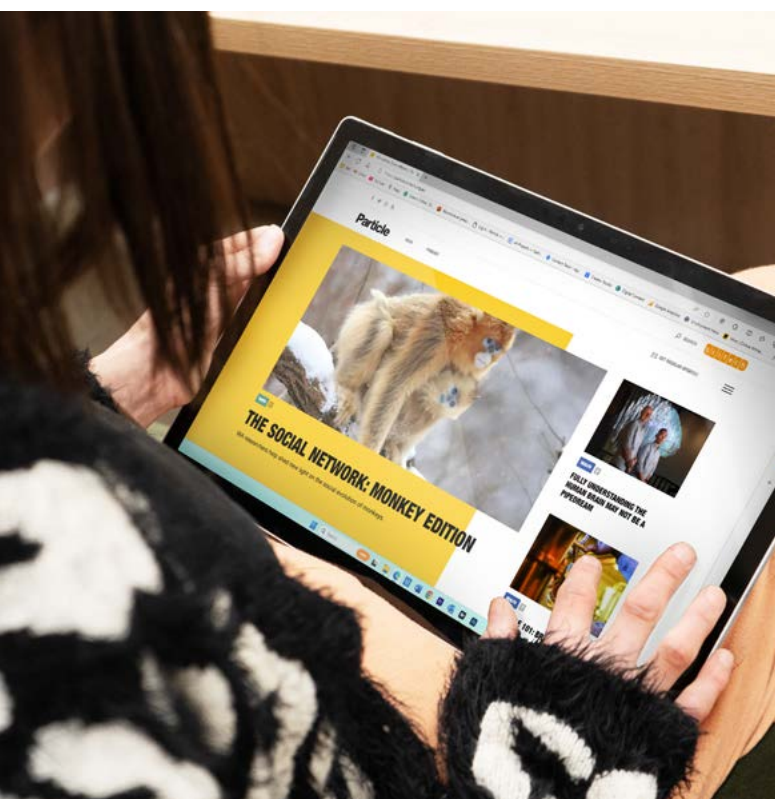
Scitech is supporting the development of STEM skills through high impact experiences, nurturing an interest in STEM, and working closely with teachers.

Science news done differently

Scitech's independent media hub, Particle, delivers creative and engaging content tailored for young people, from upper high school onwards. Particle's online articles explore the science behind current affairs, highlight the latest science happening in WA and around the world, provide a deep dive into a single topic, or profile leaders in science. We build on this engagement through a series of podcasts, email newsletters and social media.

In 2024-25, we introduced a new podcast, Word for Word, which reimagines Particle's written stories as narrative podcasts, making them accessible to audiences who need or prefer an audio format. Each episode is paired with deeper reflections that encourage philosophical thinking about science and its impact on life in WA.

By providing science news that is topical, entertaining and accessible, Particle helps young people understand their world, make informed decisions, and discover potential career pathways.



Fostering the next generation of science journalists

Beyond engaging and informing audiences, Particle is also helping to develop and nurture the current and next generation of science writers, journalists and communicators.

In 2024-25, Particle published 113 articles, supporting 28 freelance journalists at different stages of their science writing careers.

"It's fantastic to see young people writing for other young people about science, and I love seeing Particle as a bit of an incubator for fresh writing talent."

Rockwell McGellin, Particle writer and UWA Science Communication tutor

"As an early career science writer, the support from the Particle team has given me the confidence to explore topics outside my comfort zone. It's challenging and exciting, pushing me to become a better science communicator."

Connie Greeve, Particle writer and UWA Masters of Science Communication student

Sparking conversations at TEDx

In November 2024, Particle joined TEDx Kings Park Youth, connecting with young thinkers, innovators, and changemakers. Through digital kiosks and thought-provoking quizzes such as "Which is more of a threat: AI or rising sea levels?" and "Is space travel a waste of money?", we engaged more than 420 attendees. The activations sparked passionate conversations as participants explored diverse perspectives on global issues.

Particle audience across all platforms

180,913

Where play meets science



For younger audiences, Scitech's YouTube series Toy Tear Down takes apart toys to reveal the surprising science and engineering inside. From gecko-inspired grip tech to rubber ducks that helped map the ocean, each episode pairs fun and play with real scientific explanations.

From living rooms in the Pilbara to classrooms in the US, Toy Tear Down is helping young people think about toys through a scientific lens, showing how science is used in our everyday lives.

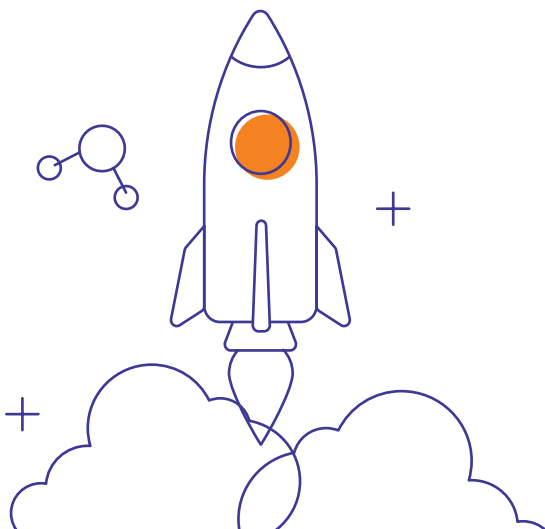
“

We watched this as a second-grade class, and the kids loved it! So much fun. Thank you!

YouTube comment

Total Toy Tear Down views

110,000+



Connecting students to STEM careers



At Scitech, we believe that STEM education is the key to Australia's future.

With funding from the Schools Pathways Program, Future Makers is getting young Western Australians excited about how skills in science, technology, engineering and maths are shaping the future of the defence industry.

Future Makers aims to inspire high school students to pursue STEM education and career pathways through fully subsidised school excursions and engaging expos.

In May 2025, Scitech showcased Future Makers at Careers Expo 2025. More than 12,000 people attended the expo over four days, with Scitech engaging visitors in fun engineering challenges, demonstrations of

real-world applications, and live polls hosted by Particle.

In 2025-26, Scitech will showcase Future Makers at the Resources Technology Showcase and STEM Regional Festivals in Bunbury, Albany and Geraldton. The free Future Makers excursions will be delivered in Terms 3 and 4 in 2025, and Term 1 in 2026.

We would like to thank Minister for Defence Industry and Capability Delivery Pat Conroy for investing in STEM education and backing programs that equip young people with the skills and knowledge to drive this crucial industry.

Young innovators rise to the challenge

In October 2024, Challenge Days brought together young minds in a celebration of collaboration, innovation, and problem-solving.

Students from 35 schools, four Primary Extension and Challenge (PEAC) programs and the Polly Farmer Foundation applied their STEM skills to a series of real-world challenges under the theme of Space Race. Students calculated optimal routes for the Curiosity Rover, balanced cargo loads for space shuttle missions, and analysed mysterious space rock samples.

Each challenge demanded creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork, encouraging students to engage deeply with scientific and mathematical principles in an inspiring, hands-on environment.

Teams collected points from each challenge and the top scoring teams were awarded prizes at the end of each day.

Through events like Challenge Days, we are helping to cultivate critical skills in young Western Australians and laying the foundations for a strong future STEM workforce.

“[Challenge Days are] innovative, inspiring, and engaging experiences that encourage today’s students to consider their future options.”

Mrs. Hollie Dunn, Peter Carnley Anglican Community School



Mission: SPACE launches to Aussie primary schools



In March 2025, Scitech launched our first national program, Mission: SPACE.

The free program is designed and delivered by Scitech and funded by the Australian Space Agency. It aims to inspire and prepare the next generation for exciting careers in the space sector through a hands-on engineering challenge for Australian classrooms, and a series of virtual excursions delivered during National Science Week 2025.

Scitech collaborated with space industry experts, including from the Australian Space Agency and the Australian Space Discovery Centre, NASA, the UWA School of Molecular Sciences, the ARC Centre of Excellence in Plants for Space, and the International

Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR). Interviews with these experts featured in the Mission: SPACE virtual excursions, highlighting the many different career pathways that exist in the space sector.

During the 2024-25 financial year, Scitech developed and launched the Mars Challenge – inviting schools to design, build and test their own Mars Rover prototype. Scitech sent kits with materials and lesson content to 100 Australian primary schools, helping to inspire young minds to learn more about space and even consider a future career in the sector.

Shining a light on maths education

Delivered by Scitech, in partnership with Chevron Australia, Lighthouse Maths is a year-long professional development program to build teachers' skills and confidence in using problem-solving and reasoning techniques to teach maths.

The Lighthouse Maths approach sees students working together, using their shared knowledge and understanding to find a solution, with teachers using targeted questioning to prompt further learning. Students discover there are many different approaches and solutions to the same problem, building their problem-solving, collaboration, and reasoning skills.

One of the 2025 participating teachers, Lauren French from Madeley Primary School, shared that Lighthouse Maths had enabled her students to apply mathematics concepts in meaningful, real-world contexts, encouraging deeper engagement with the content.

“[Lighthouse Maths] allows students to demonstrate understanding through reasoning, persistence, and creative thinking, moving beyond rote procedures,” Ms French said.

“The structure provides a supportive environment where less confident learners felt safe to contribute and demonstrate their understanding.”

Roseworth Primary School teacher Jaimel Barrett was part of the 2024 cohort and said that participating in

Lighthouse Maths changed how she questions students during math lessons.

“I now emphasise questions that encourage students to explain and demonstrate their reasoning,” Ms Barrett said.

“Seeing my students enjoy math lessons and engage more deeply has made the experience even more rewarding.”

Now in its fifth year, Lighthouse Maths has achieved some incredible results. Using the ACER PAT-Mathematics assessment to measure student performance and growth, we found that students who participated in Lighthouse Maths in 2024 achieved on average five months of additional learning beyond the expected growth of one year.

Teachers who participated in the 2024 program reported a 62% increase in confidence teaching mathematical problem-solving, a 91% increase in student problem solving capacity, and a 52% increase in student engagement in maths.



Teacher engagements

1,509

Student engagements

4,328



Students build future-ready skills

Scitech, in partnership with the Alcoa Foundation, is ensuring students are future-ready, by helping teachers incorporate digital technologies into their daily teaching.

Alcoa Foundation Real World Digital Technologies is a one-term professional learning program that aims to increase teacher confidence and engagement with teaching digital technologies across subject areas. In 2024, Scitech delivered the program to schools in the Serpentine-Jarrahdale region, and in 2025 we have been working with seven schools from Kwinana to Yarloop.

To support long-term change and impact, we also deliver Alcoa Foundation Champions of Digital Technologies, a year-long professional learning

program. Through workshops, peer-to-peer coaching and resources, the program supports eight teachers across four schools to deliver curriculum-aligned learning, specific to their school and classroom contexts.

This is the third year Scitech has delivered the Alcoa Foundation Champions of Digital Technologies program. In 2024, all participants reported increased confidence in teaching digital content, and an increase in their students' engagement and capacity in digital technologies.

Teacher engagements

368

Student engagements

980

Karratha teachers integrate digital technologies

Scitech's Integrated Digital Technologies program is deepening digital literacy and future-ready skills through a 30-week professional learning program.

In partnership with Woodside Energy, program empowers primary school teachers in Karratha to embed digital technologies learning across the curriculum, through teaching resources and ongoing coaching.

One standout element is the Catch a Hacker event – an interactive challenge that invites students, parents and carers to work together to solve a mystery.

Scitech Professional Learning Consultant Emily Grainger said the Catch a Hacker event at Tambrey Primary School in September 2024 was one of the biggest Scitech's ever had.

"It was so great to see the school community getting involved and discovering the fun and satisfaction of using their problem-solving skills to solve the puzzles," Ms Grainger said.

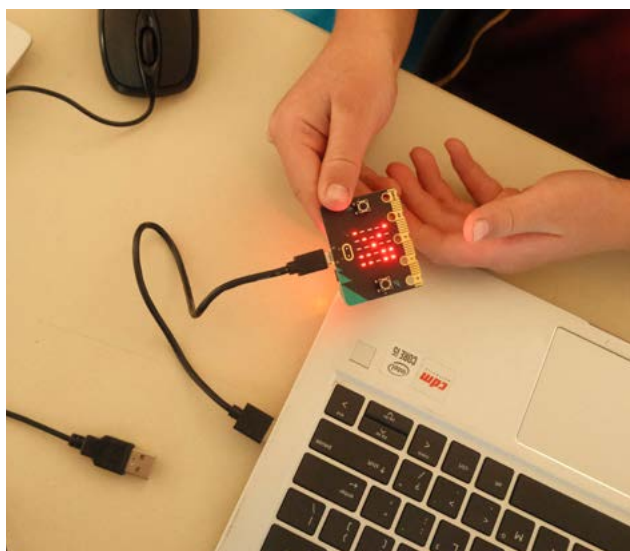
The program is offered at no cost to selected Karratha schools, making high-impact digital technologies learning accessible to regional communities.

Teacher engagements

175

Student engagements

1,185



STEM Club sparks creativity, resilience and hands-on learning

STEM Club is an intensive multi-week after school program for students in Years 4 to 6 delivered by Scitech, in partnership with Woodside Energy.

In 2024-25, participants took a deep dive into STEM concepts through hands-on projects such as building an animatronic sculpture, creating a light-up artwork, exploring robotics, and constructing a rubber band powered flying machine.

Scitech Operations Coordinator Zoe Burt said she was impressed by the resilience and determination of the students as they navigated complicated or frustrating projects.

"It's inspiring to watch them intuitively follow the design process without even consciously thinking about it – testing things out, changing their plans, trying again, asking their peers for help," she said.

"The icing on the cake is when they want to take their project home after STEM Club is over, to continue working on it."

Through the support of Woodside Energy, this program is provided for free to select schools.

Teacher engagements

2,089

Parents, teachers and siblings engaged

253

Empowering teachers and engaging students one DIY kit at a time

Scitech’s DIY Science Kits are empowering teachers across Western Australia to deliver high-quality, hands-on science education – no matter where their classroom is.

Supported by Rio Tinto, each kit provides a term’s worth of curriculum-aligned activities and materials to engage students in learning about robotics and coding, biological sciences, chemical sciences, earth and space sciences, and physical sciences.

At Warlawurru Catholic Primary School in Halls Creek, students from Foundation to Year 6 used the kit’s resources during their regular science lessons – turning science into a much-anticipated highlight of the week.

Teacher Iain MacKellar said students had shown great engagement and interest in all of the activities.

“The students particularly enjoy the hands-on nature of many activities, stimulating tactile responses and introducing students to new materials and new experiences,” Mr MacKellar said.

“The activities are all about developing students’ science enquiry skills through exploration and investigation.

“The questions usually stimulate valuable discussions and sharing of ideas.”

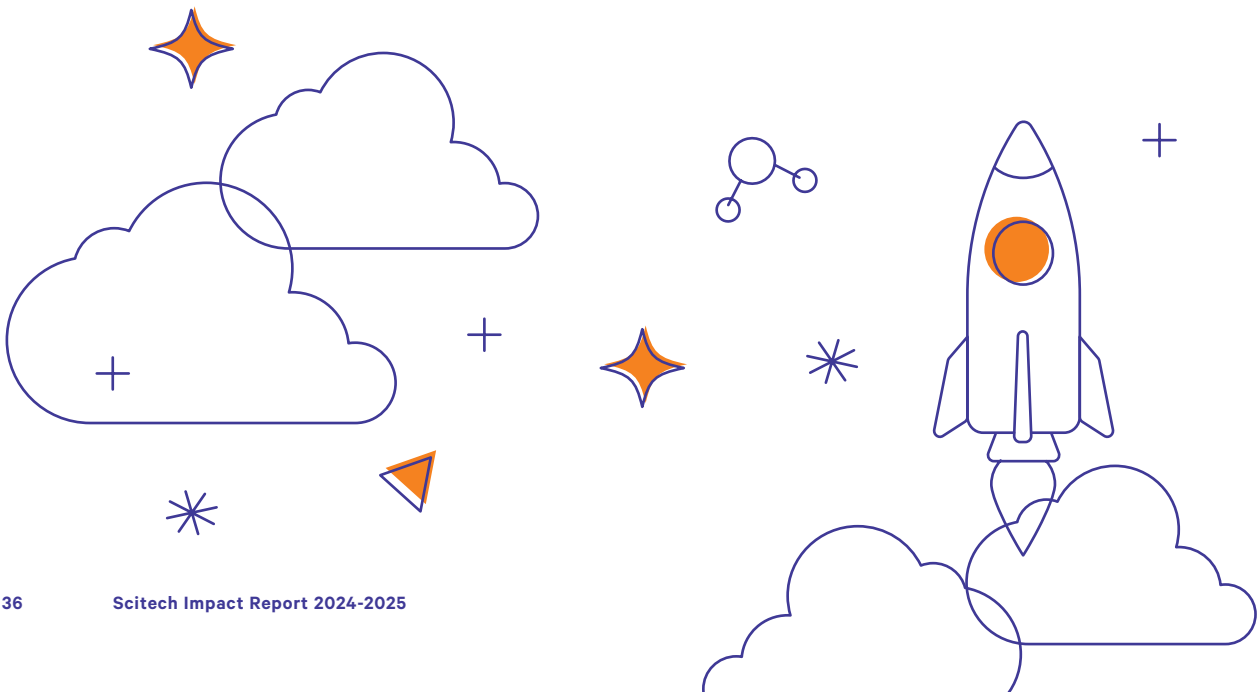
Scitech’s two year partnership also includes the Rio Tinto Innovation Central space in the Scitech Discovery Centre.

Teacher engagements

373

Student engagements

22,631



Pilbara students and teachers take on tech challenges

Students in the Pilbara are building essential digital skills through hands-on experiences. The Mitsui Future Computing program builds teachers' confidence in teaching physical computing – interactive systems that can sense and respond to the world around them.

Students in the Pilbara are building essential digital skills through hands-on experiences. The Mitsui Future Computing program builds teachers' confidence in teaching physical computing – interactive systems that can sense and respond to the world around them.

With the support of Mitsui Iron Ore Development, the program offers mentoring, coaching and in-class workshops. Teachers receive practical support to plan and deliver engaging digital technologies lessons, while students learn through problem-solving and

coding activities using small computers, which are provided by the program.

In 2024 and 2025 Scitech is delivering Mitsui Future Computing to Pegs Creek Primary School in Karratha. We delivered 38 professional learning sessions to 30 teachers in 2024-25 and 16 in-classroom collaborations with 74 students. To mark the end of the 2024 program, Scitech's professional learning team worked with teachers and students to run a traffic light coding challenge using LED lights.

“

I have learned a lot, and the students have learned a lot. I love the way we have been able to incorporate it into lots of the other curriculum areas, and it hasn't just been a digital technology lesson ... I feel like my confidence and understanding has improved greatly, even though there is still a lot more to learn.

Gail Davies, Pegs Creek Primary School teacher

Teacher engagements

30

Student engagements

74



scitech



Connect and Collaborate

We believe that the most effective way to engage all Western Australians in STEM is to partner and collaborate with other organisations and community groups that have a shared purpose and complementary capabilities.



Report highlights STEM skills are essential for Perth's future

What will Perth look like in 2050? And are we prepared?

In 2024, Scitech and Committee for Perth put these questions to the Perth community, commissioning the Perth 2050 report with futurist Dr Ben Hamer.

The report found Perth residents are cautiously optimistic about 2050 – with 68% excited about the future, but just 22% feeling that Perth is prepared for 2050.

The environment (90%), health care (89%), housing affordability and availability (86%), economic diversification (81%) and inclusive communities (78%) were identified as the top five issues that Perth residents believe we must tackle over the next 25 years.

For Scitech, the report highlights our role as a STEM education institution in preparing Perth residents and the future generation for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Scitech Chief Executive Officer Dr John Chappell said it was important we start talking about the questions and issues raised in the report.

“The keys to Perth’s future success are outlined in this report: economic diversification, green energy transition, and responsible technology adoption,” said Dr Chappell.

“A 10-year-old who visits Scitech today will be 36 and engaging in a vastly different world in 2050.

“We need to act now to ensure they are prepared by equipping our young people, and the rest of the community, with future-ready STEM skills, digital literacy, and a commitment to lifelong learning.”

With Perth’s population forecast to reach 3.5 million by 2050, this report marks the beginning of an ongoing dialogue with policymakers, business leaders, educators, and the wider community.

Read a copy of the Perth 2050 report at www.scitech.org.au/perth-2050-report



ECU Racing makes a pitstop at Scitech

Scitech joined forces with Edith Cowan University (ECU) to promote Western Australian innovation, science and engineering, and inspire young minds about the endless possibilities of a career in engineering.

From December 2024 to January 2025, the Scitech Discovery Centre hosted ECU Racing Team's custom-built Wilson Resolute race car, which took the top spot at Formula Student 2024 in the UK.

The Scitech and ECU collaboration also featured interactive talks by ECU Racing Team members and Scitech Engineers Ashley Ure and Morgan Ure.

Weighing in at a feather light 164 kilograms, the race car can reach 100km/h in under four seconds and outperformed 55 other universities from across Europe.



How Scitech helped spark a passion for engineering

As kids, Ashley and Morgan Ure were fascinated by the world around them and uncovering how things worked.

Passionate about science and maths, the twins loved watching TV shows like MythBusters, Top Gear and Scrap Heap Challenge.

From the age of four, Ashley and Morgan would visit Scitech on the weekends with their parents, and when they were a little older, take part in Scitech school holiday programs.

“Scitech was a place we could go as kids that helped us realise there were so many different applications for STEM,” said Morgan.

“Whether it was music production, playing with special effects, dissecting owl scat, or designing a spaghetti bridge to withstand a bucket of sand, you never knew what you were going to experience at Scitech – and that was pretty cool as a kid.”

After eight-year-old Ashley and Morgan attended a Lego Mindstorms school holiday program at Scitech, they campaigned their parents for their very own robot for Christmas, which they then programed to compete and win in RoboCup Junior WA.

Their love of robotics continued throughout high school and led to them enrolling in a double degree in Mechatronics and Computer Science at Edith Cowan University (ECU).

In what they describe as a “full circle” moment, Ashley and Morgan returned to Scitech, this time as employees.

“We started volunteering at Scitech as ‘SciGuides’ in their first year of university, before transitioning into science communicator roles, and then had the opportunity to start working in the Scitech workshop as software engineers,” said Ashley.



“It was an amazing job to have while being a student.

“As software engineers, we were designing the Scitech exhibits you see on the floor, so we got to do all of the development, ideation, design of the systems, the physical testing, the wiring, all the way up to the programming.

“It utilised all of our mechatronics and computer programming backgrounds, and it was really exciting working on Scitech’s new gallery Here, There and Everywhere.”

Having now graduated from university, Ashley and Morgan are pursuing the next step in their careers, building on their engineering experience with graduate programs at Fortescue.

Ashley and Morgan’s journey from curious kids at Scitech to graduate engineers is a powerful reminder of the impact early access to STEM can have. Their story reflects Scitech’s mission to ignite curiosity, nurture talent, and provide experiences that open pathways to future careers.

Scitech takes WA science to the world



In 2024-25, Scitech exported Western Australian science education to global audiences, with tours to Hong Kong and India.

Scitech presented our unique shows and exhibits at Croucher Science Week at Hong Kong Science Museum, and CHIREC International School expo in Hyderabad.

At Croucher Science Week, which ran from 7-25 April 2025, we showcased Scitech's brand-new science show, Wow! to excited audiences. It was an amazing opportunity to share what Scitech does and engage with science communicators from all over the world, including The Royal Institution of Great Britain and Germany's Deutsches Museum.

For the first time, Scitech also travelled to India, bringing our interactive exhibits, science activities and Under Pressure show to CHIREC International School expo in April 2025. Scitech was invited directly by the India-based event organisers – a huge recognition of our expertise and leadership in informal science learning.

All of Scitech's exhibits, shows and activities are designed and created onsite at Scitech, and we're proud to be representing Western Australian science and innovation on the world stage.

Scitech and Questacon bring a science centre to Bunbury

In April 2025, Scitech teamed up with our national counterpart Questacon to deliver a free Pop-Up Science Centre to Bunbury.

Scitech provided interactive STEM activities and exhibits including puzzles, robotics, and experiments with G-forces and flight. We also supplied a cohort of amazing science communicators to engage visitors with science busks and sparkling conversation. Questacon delivered a selection of science shows featuring bubbles, liquid Nitrogen and fireballs for an enthusiastic crowd.

Engaging 1,590 people across two days, the partnership provided a fantastic opportunity for shared learning between our two teams, and a reminder of the power of science to connect and inspire communities.



Building a stronger STEM community



In 2024–25, WA STEM Connect continued to play an important role in strengthening collaboration and communication among Western Australia’s STEM organisations.

Hosted bi-annually by Scitech, this program creates opportunities for knowledge-sharing and cross-sector engagement, all in the spirit of growing a vibrant STEM community.

The Better Together event in March 2025 was an exclusive event for Western Australian STEM organisations, giving them the opportunity to profile their projects and goals through short presentations. We introduced Network Bingo – a light-hearted activity designed to spark conversations and help attendees facilitate discussions around the spotlight presentations.

The Content event in October 2024 welcomed a broader audience, including educators, and focused

on showcasing current STEM outreach activities in WA. Scitech’s Audience Research Manager shared evaluation and reflective practices, and our Programs Coordinator spoke about the Two-Way Science approach for cross-cultural learning. Representatives from Questacon and Edith Cowan University also spoke about their respective outreach programs.

In 2024-25, we also launched the WA STEM Connect Directory – a publication highlighting the services and programs offered by STEM organisations in WA.

As we look to 2025–26, we remain focused on expanding participation, deepening collaboration, and celebrating the incredible work happening across our state.

Organisations involved in
WA STEM Connect

76

Event participants

70

Inspiring young innovators through My Future Energy workshops

In January 2025, we brought the science of renewable energy to life through a series of eight My Future Energy workshops, delivered in partnership with OPITO's Offshore Training Foundation.

These workshops were part of the Offshore Wind4Kids initiative, aimed at sparking interest in energy careers and building the skills needed for a net zero future.

Scitech designed the Breezy Builders workshop for lower primary school-aged children, with the aim of exploring wind energy through playful, hands-on experimentation. Participants designed and built their own wind turbines, testing how much weight their creations could lift, and refining their designs through trial and error.

For older participants, Turbine Tinkering offered a deeper dive into turbine mechanics and offshore

wind innovation, challenging participants to build an offshore wind turbine on a simulated coastline.

Over the course of the summer school holidays, 106 young participants took part in the workshops, with a further nine siblings and 56 parents and carers joining in to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment. Participants' understanding of what is considered a STEM career changed over the course of the workshop through conversations that highlighted real-world links and career opportunities. One Scitech facilitator noted: "One kid was fascinated with how being a scuba diver could mean a job in science and not just a hobby."



"[I enjoyed] trying to get the turbine to work on the water, because it was harder. You didn't always get it to work immediately, but that was part of the challenge"

Workshop participant

"In school we just learn about...words, just write down the definitions and learn about what they mean and stuff. But here we actually get to try out stuff."

Workshop participant



Sustainability and Environment

Scitech is committed to minimising our environmental footprint and responsibly using resources and energy. We are working towards our target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

Taking action for environmental sustainability

As a science engagement organisation, we recognise our responsibility to lead environmental sustainability by example. We're committed to reducing our environmental footprint, making thoughtful choices, and helping others understand how they can also be part of the solution.

Sustainability Action Plan

In 2024-25, we took significant steps towards our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030, with the launch of our first Sustainability Action Plan. The plan provides a roadmap of actions we will take over the next three years, in the key areas of operational impact, procurement, managing and reporting, culture, and engaging stakeholders.

To support the development of the plan, we established a dedicated Sustainability Lead position (0.2 full-time equivalent). We also formed a cross-organisational Sustainability Working Group to help drive the implementation of our action plan and foster a culture of accountability, innovation and continuous improvement.

Environmental audits

Scitech conducted key environmental audits, including assessing our lighting, printing, and waste, and undertaking a carbon footprint assessment (scope 1 and 2 emissions). The audits have provided important baseline data and helped identify opportunities for improvement.

Engaging our staff and community

A sustainable future requires collective effort, so we are embedding sustainability across our workplace culture and visitor experiences.

In November 2024, we participated in National Recycling Week, hosting a Recycling Trivia event to raise awareness and spark conversations among staff about waste reduction and recycling practices.

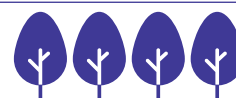
We also provide Containers for Change collection points throughout our centre and offices, supported by signage to encourage recycling habits for both staff and visitors. Funds raised by the scheme contribute to Scitech's School Access Program, providing select primary schools with free entry to a Scitech excursion and support towards bus transportation.

Scitech proudly partnered with the Government of Western Australia and the Waste Authority to create an interactive exhibit as part of our Here, There and Everywhere transformation. The exhibit features a waste truck activity, where visitors sort household waste into general waste, recycling, FOGO and Containers for Change bins – helping Western Australians understand how to reduce landfill in their everyday lives.

In 2024-25 we reduced printing by 34%

34%

the equivalent of saving more than four trees



or 443 kilograms of CO₂.





Accessibility and Inclusion

As part of our purpose to engage Western Australians in science, technology, engineering and maths, we're committed to making our experiences and workplace inclusive and accessible for all.

Taking bold steps on our reconciliation journey

In 2024–25, we developed our first Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). This marks an important step in our commitment to reconciliation and to building meaningful, respectful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Through our Discovery Centre and outreach programs, we are uniquely positioned to engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, creating opportunities to develop exhibits and experiences that are culturally responsive and foster deeper, more inclusive STEM engagement across Western Australia.

Our RAP reflects our commitment to building a workplace culture that embraces diversity, champions inclusivity, and respectfully acknowledges the histories and ongoing contributions of First Nations peoples. Through the RAP, we are embedding reconciliation into the core of our operations.

A RAP Working Group, which includes representatives from across Scitech, has been championing the implementation of the plan. In 2024–25, key achievements included rolling out staff Cultural Competence training, engaging staff in National Reconciliation Week activities, and conducting a review of human resources policies and procedures to identify existing anti-discrimination provisions and future needs.



Making science accessible for everyone

At Scitech, we believe science is for everyone. That's why we're deeply committed to making our experiences more inclusive, welcoming, and accessible for all members of our community. In 2024–2025, we introduced new programs, partnerships, and upgrades to help remove barriers and foster a more equitable space for science engagement.

Auslan Day

In collaboration with the WA Foundation for Deaf Children (WAFDC), we hosted a dedicated Auslan Day during the October School Holidays. This initiative created a welcoming environment tailored to the needs of families with Deaf and hard-of-hearing children, including Auslan interpretation of our science, puppet and planetarium shows, and a welcome video in Auslan with captions to communicate visitor information. WAFDC provided Deaf Mentors to assist visitors throughout the day.

Creating low-sensory environments

Thanks to support from Scitech's philanthropy program, we trialled transforming the Puppet Theatre into a low sensory space during the Summer and Autumn School Holidays – an initiative warmly received by families of children with sensory sensitivities. Based on the success of the trial, we're excited to continue offering a designated low sensory space during all major school holiday periods going forward.





Improving physical access to our spaces

We completed important physical infrastructure upgrades to ensure Scitech's facilities are accessible to all. This included widening the door of the Magnesium Meeting Room, which is available for community use.

New cochlear implant exhibit

Scitech collaborated with Deaf Connect to develop a new cochlear implant exhibit for the Here, There and Everywhere gallery. This hands-on exhibit explains the science behind cochlear implants and features personal stories from people who use them, offering visitors a meaningful glimpse into both the technology and the lived experiences of Deaf community members.

Live closed captioning

To support the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community to experience Scitech's science shows, demonstrations and planetarium shows, we have been working to implement a closed caption system to transcribe spoken word into text. Supported by funding from Telethon, the system will allow us to deliver real-time, accurate captioning in the Scitech Planetarium, Chevron Science Theatre and via a mobile screen trolley, which will be used in outreach and pop-up events.

Expanding Access Days with The Smith Family and Transperth

In a partnership with The Smith Family and Transperth, we delivered Access Days over two weekends during the Summer School Holidays. These events provided free entry to Scitech and included complimentary public transport, helping to reduce both cost and logistical barriers for families.

Strengthening staff training

To better support all our visitors, Scitech's delivery teams completed Neurodiversity Training. This helps

ensure our team is equipped with the skills and understanding needed to create safe, respectful, and inclusive experiences for every visitor.

Accessible Tourism Accreditation Program

Scitech took part in the Accessible Tourism Accreditation program, which looks at improving and communicating accessibility for visitors. As part of program, Scitech committed to continuously improving the accessibility of the Scitech Discovery Centre and our programs.

Proudly marching for inclusivity

We were proud to join the Perth PrideFest Parade for the first time in 2024 to celebrate inclusivity in science. With the message "science is for everyone," Scitech joined community groups, businesses and organisations in solidarity and celebration of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Scitech's entry was a statement of support for LGBTQIA+ people in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM), who often face harassment, career barriers, and pressure to conceal their identities.

"Scitech's visible support helps break down barriers, inspiring underrepresented communities to see science as a place where they can truly be themselves."

*Scitech Partnership Advisor and Pride Working Group Lead
Chloe Jensen*

Our debut at Perth PrideFest Parade builds on Scitech's broader commitment to foster an inclusive environment where everyone feels safe, seen, and represented in STEM.



Partner Support

Our dedicated partners and supporters enable us to do more, reach more, engage more and inspire more, every day.

Turning generosity into opportunity for all Western Australians



Our supporters have a shared belief that by igniting curiosity and inspiring imaginations we can create a brighter future for Western Australia. Together, we are working to ensure that our community has access to world-class experiences that will empower the kids of today to develop the critical thinking and problem-solving skills needed to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

Individuals, family trusts and foundations have had a profound role in making Scitech more accessible and inclusive to all Western Australians. In 2024-25, Scitech's philanthropy program supported a number of initiatives, including providing free sensory backpacks for visitors with autism or other sensory concerns, and the fit-out of a low-sensory room that is available for visitors during the school holidays. Funds also went towards modifying the Chevron Science Theatre seating to improve accessibility for wheelchair users, providing free access days to families who could

not otherwise afford to visit Scitech, and offering free excursions to select schools, including bus transport as part of Scitech's School Access Program.

Scitech supporters also helped fund a new exhibit as part of our major gallery transformation, *Here, There and Everywhere*. The interactive exhibit invites visitors to experience how artificial light impacts our night sky and sea turtles, and highlights how science and technology can be used to help protect threatened species.

Partnerships

Government partners



Government of Western Australia
Department of Energy and Economic Diversification



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources



Australian Government
Defence



Australian
Space Agency

Corporate partners



RioTinto



Exhibition partners and supporters

Astrotourism WA
Aurecon
Australian SKA Regional Centre (AusSRC)
Biofab
Cancer Council of WA
CBH Group
CSIRO
Deaf Connect
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment
and Water
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER),
acting for the Waste Authority
International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR)
Pawsey Supercomputing Research Centre
Reeddi
SKA Observatory (SKAO)
Uluu
Wajarri Yamaji

Trusts and Foundations

AOJ Woods Foundation
Aurizon Community Giving Fund
Collier Charitable Fund
Lotterywest
Stan Perron Charitable Foundation

Synergy Community Giving Program
Telethon
Toyota Community Trust
Variety WA

Community Partners

ARTRAGE
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Australian Association for Environmental Education (WA)
Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence
for the Digital Child
Australian Science Communicators
Babcock Australia
Bee Central
Catholic Education Western Australia
Celebrate WA
Children's University
Containers for Change
Curtin University
Deaf Connect
e2 Young Engineers
EarthDaily Analytics
Edge Employment Solutions
Engineering Institute of Technology
Engineers Australia
Future Science Talks
Indigenous Desert Alliance

Kinetic IT
Mathematical Association of WA
National Science Week Co-ordinating Committee
North Metropolitan TAFE
Perron Institute for Neurological and Translational Science
Polly Farmer Foundation
Questacon
Revelation Film Festival
Royal Agricultural Society of WA
Saving Our Snake-Neck Turtle
Science Teachers Association of WA
Seven West Media
Smith Family
South Metropolitan TAFE
Strategic Grants
The Innovators Tea Party Inc
The Kids Research Institute Australia
University of Western Australia
UWA Oceans Institute
WA Data Science Innovation Hub
Women in Technology WA







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