The Wonderstruck... Fan-Powered Car Workshop

What happens?

Pupils work in teams of three to build a prototype model fanpowered car. They test the prototype to establish a benchmark performance and then are given access to a wide range of different components with which to improve the performance of their cars.

The session ends with a competition to find the 'best' car.

Who's it for?

KS1 all the way to adult!

How many can take part?

Depending on the exact format of the workshop we can run this with anything from class-sized groups up to 600 plus participants.

Workshop requirements

We will need access to a large space with a smooth, flat floor for the introductory presentation, car testing and racing.

For larger groups we will usually split into a number of separate classrooms for the car construction.





'Simple circuits and forces. Nice to see such an engaging workshop getting students to work in teams and apply scientific knowledge'

KS3 Science Teacher

Workshop formats

This is our most flexible workshop. We start with an introduction to all participants which covers the science and the process of the workshop. Participants then work in teams of three to build, test and modify their cars and we finish off with an exciting competition to find the 'best' car.

We can deliver this in an hour to small class-sized groups or we can run a half day session with up to 600 participants. For groups of up to 60 more able/older children we offer a day-long version that involves working with budgets, giving presentations along with the usual time trials and final big race off.

The science

The STEM topics covered in this workshop are:

- Forces
- Simple circuits
- Newton's Laws of Motion

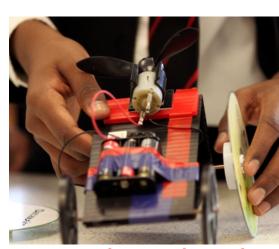
We can differentiate content for participants from KS1 to adult!

Duration

Exact workshop duration depends on the particular format and number of participants. We can run this workshop in its basic form in an hour with 30 - 60 participants or two hours with 300 participants or there's a full-day version for groups of up to 60 participants.

'Our car was great! I can't believe it went so fast.

That was cool.'



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KS3 Student