

# The Wonderstruck... Hovercraft Workshop

## What happens?

Pupils work in teams of three to build a prototype model hovercraft. 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 its performance.

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

## Who's it for?

Upper KS2 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 300 plus participants.

## Workshop requirements

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

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



**WONDERSTRUCK**  
SCIENCE ON FIRE



'Brilliant! So good to see students working through problems with their hovercraft and getting them to work so well.'

KS3 Science Teacher

## Workshop formats

The workshop starts 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 hovercraft. We finish off with an exciting competition to find the 'best' hovercraft.

We can deliver this in 90 minutes to small class-sized groups or we can run a half day session with up to 300 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 final big race off.

## The science

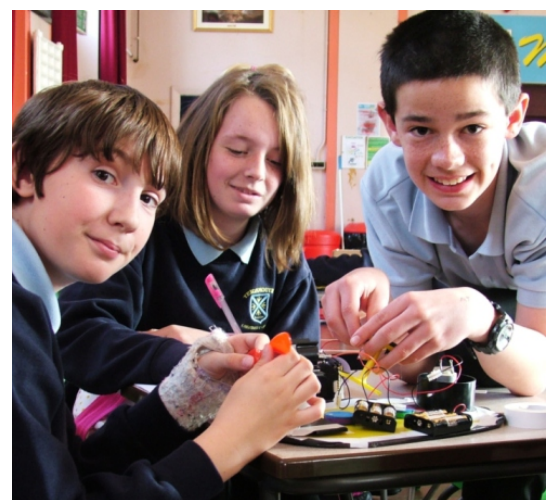
The STEM topics covered in this workshop are:

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

We can differentiate content for participants from KS2 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 90 minutes with 30 - 60 participants or two and a half hours with 300 participants or there's a full-day version for groups of up to 60 participants.



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'Working in a team with new people was good. I was nervous to start with but now we're all good friends.'

KS2 Pupil