

The Wonderstruck...

Rocket Car Workshop

What happens?

Rocket Cars are small cars powered by horizontally mounted water rockets.

Teams investigate how altering a variety of different factors affect Rocket Car performance. The session ends with a competition to find the 'best' Rocket Car.

Who's it for?

KS1 all the way to adult!

How many can take part?

We can run this workshop with up to 150 participants.

Workshop requirements

We will need access to a large space with a smooth, flat floor for the introductory presentation and a large, flat outdoor space (tennis court size or bigger) with a concrete or tarmac surface for the final competition.

Construction will need to be done in classroom spaces.



WONDERSTRUCK
SCIENCE ON FIRE



'It was interesting to see how much science was packed into this.'

The way that thrust varies with pressure and nozzle diameter was particularly interesting.'

KS3 Science Teacher

Workshop format

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 Rocket Car. They are encouraged to consider the factors that affect their car's performance such as pressure, volume of water, diameter of rocket nozzle etc.

The session ends with an exciting race off to find the 'best' car.

The science

The STEM topics covered in this workshop are:

- Forces
- Momentum/inertia (older/more able groups)
- Pressure

We can differentiate content for participants from KS1 to adult!

Mix & match

The Rocket Car Workshop makes an ideal accompaniment to our Rocket Show as it focuses on the application of many of the topics covered in the show.

Duration

Exact workshop duration depends on the particular number of participants. We can run this workshop in its most basic form in 60 minutes with 30 - 60 participants.

'We all got soaked!'

It was fantastic. The hardest part was getting our car to stay on the ground and go in a straight line.'

KS3 Pupil



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