

The Wonderstruck 'Just For Christmas'...

Rocket-Powered Sleigh Workshop

What happens?

Participants work in pairs or threes to build simple card and paper rocket-powered sleighs and launch them from our specially built compressed air launchers.

This is generally a competitive workshop to see whose sleigh can go the furthest.

Who's it for?

Year R all the way to adult!

How many can take part?

The only limit is the space you have available for launching. With access to a standard school football pitch we can run this activity with about 2-300 participants.

Workshop requirements

We need a space suitable for the number of participants to undertake a practical activity. For larger groups we will usually split into a number of separate classrooms for the rocket construction. For launching we will need access to a large outdoor space, preferably as far from roads etc as possible.



WONDERSTRUCK
SCIENCE ON FIRE



'Our rocket travelled 90 metres and we were the furthest.'

I couldn't even see how high it went!

KS2 Pupil

Workshop format

The session starts with an introduction to rocket science.

Participants then work in small teams using their scientific knowledge to design and build their own rocket-powered sleighs complete with a leading reindeer with a glowing red LED nose. Once complete, we go outside to launch them. These aren't quite as aerodynamic as our normal compressed air rockets but a good one may go 20 metres or so.

The science

The STEM topics covered in this workshop are:

- Forces
- Aerodynamics
- Newton's Laws of Motion
- Very simple electric circuits

We can differentiate content for participants from KS1 to adult!

Note: The LED noses may not be appropriate for very young children as they involve using button cells.

Mix & match

This workshop makes an ideal follow on activity for our spectacular Rocket Show.

Duration

Exact workshop duration depends on the number of participants but it's typically somewhere between 60 and 90 minutes.

'I love the way that the science can be as simple or in-depth as you like.'

Great presenters!'

KS3 Teacher



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