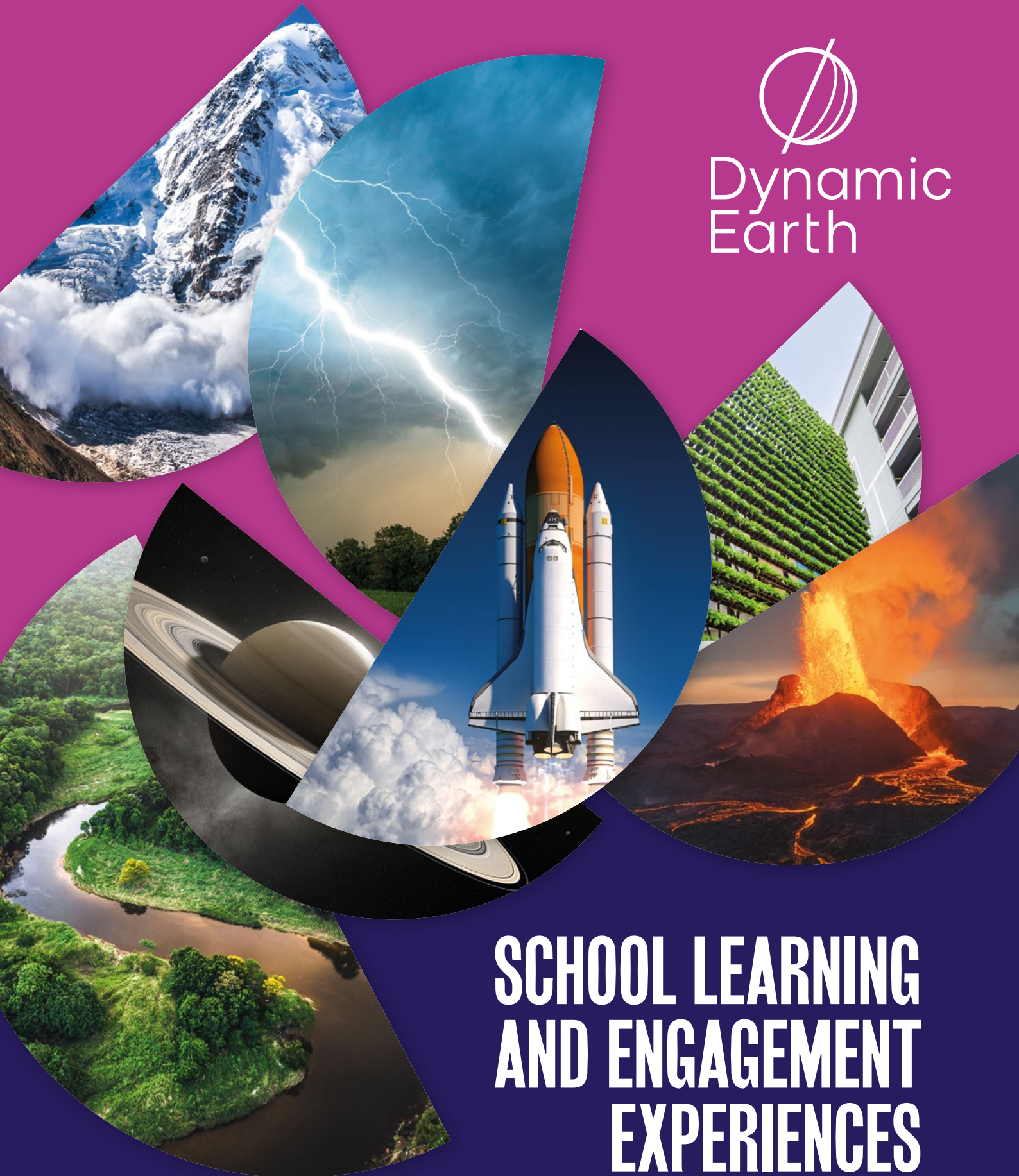




Dynamic
Earth



SCHOOL LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT EXPERIENCES 2025-2026



[DYNAMIC EARTH.ORG.UK](https://www.dynamicearth.org.uk)

Scottish Charity No. SCO20363



DELIVERING LEARNING JOURNEYS

Dynamic Earth is the UK's leading Earth Science Centre and Planetarium that tells the extraordinary story of our planet. We're a national educational charity, on a mission to empower everyone with understanding and empathy for the Earth.

Bring the Curriculum for Excellence and Learning for Sustainability alive with inspirational interdisciplinary indoor, outdoor and online experiences which enrich and deepen learning journeys for learners aged 3-18.

Through our immersive exhibition, planetarium, workshops and online opportunities, we deliver national priorities for you and your learners. We offer schools engagement opportunities throughout the school year to unlock impactful experiences that inspire lifelong passion and enthusiasm for STEM learning.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

If you're coming to Dynamic Earth in person, you can visit our exhibition, take part in our workshops and experience our planetarium:

2 activities
£7.75/pupil

3 activities
£8.50/pupil

For all in-person school visits before the end of December 2025, schools can book 3 activities for the price of 2, dependent on capacity.

Transport subsidy available – please get in touch for more information.

GET IN TOUCH

Ready to book a visit to Dynamic Earth? Please send an email to our team on groups@dynamicearth.org.uk

COMING TO DYNAMIC EARTH



The Dynamic Earth Exhibition

Take the journey of a lifetime through our immersive exhibition galleries which tell the story of our planet.

Page 4



School Workshops

We offer storytelling and workshop experiences for learners aged 3-18 which help you deliver the Curriculum for Excellence.

Page 6



Outdoor Learning

Explore how we can support delivery of outdoor learning as part of Learning for Sustainability.

Page 11



Planetarium

Immerse yourself in our live planetarium shows or choose one of our full-dome films.

Page 12



School Careers Showcase

Meet real scientists from research and industry in person at Dynamic Earth.

Page 16

HOW CAN WE HELP?

Free familiarisation visits are available for teachers who want to experience the centre in person before bringing pupils.

ENGAGE WITH US ONLINE



Online Workshops

Remote and rural schools across Scotland can join us from afar in live online workshops.

Page 7-9



Meet the Scientist Opportunities

Online opportunities throughout the year to meet inspirational role models working in Earth and environmental science.

Page 17

SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Keep up to date with everything we have to offer throughout the year by signing up to our newsletter.



THERE'S
MORE TO
EXPLORE

DYNAMIC EARTH EXHIBITION EXPERIENCE

Our exhibition galleries take you and your learners on an interactive and immersive journey through our planet's past, present and future. You'll explore the story of our planet from the Big Bang right through to the present day, and think critically about the future of Earth in an age where humankind is impacting our planet in multiple ways.



You'll start your journey finding out more about how Scottish landscapes and scientists helped us uncover the age of planet Earth.



Then, you'll board our Time Machine and travel back to the beginning of time, witnessing major moments in the history of Earth and our Universe.



You'll take in the Big Bang and discover how Earth formed on the observation deck of a spaceship.

When you disembark you'll experience a ground-shattering earthquake and volcanic eruption!





You'll fly over glaciated scenery and see how water and ice have shaped Scottish landscapes.



Then you'll explore past life on our planet, taking in millions of years of evolution and finding out which species became extinct along the way.

As you arrive back in the present day, you'll Discover the Deep and explore pioneers of marine science and modern ocean research across Scotland today.



Get your hands on a real iceberg and explore how polar regions act as laboratories for climate change.



Fly through the Arctic to the Equator in our immersive 4D cinema.



You'll finish off your journey by getting caught in a tropical thunderstorm in the West African rainforest!



**WE RECOMMEND
90 MINUTES TO
EXPERIENCE OUR
GALLERIES**

STORYTELLING AND WORKSHOPS

Our unique range of presenter-led storytelling and workshop experiences are fully aligned with the Curriculum for Excellence and are designed to help support learners to fulfil their potential as scientists of the future. There is something here for learners at every level, from ages 3-18, from Early Years learning through to Senior Phase.

LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Through outdoor learning and topics including climate action and global citizenship, we can help your learners work towards a better future.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

We aim to support rights-based learning through learning experiences based on values including participation, respect and inclusion.

META-SKILLS

When participating in our interactive sessions, learners will get opportunities to utilise meta-skills from Skills Development Scotland's progression framework.

STEM NATION PARTNER

We are proud to be an official partner of Education Scotland's STEM Nation Award, inspiring further STEM learning in your settings.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

We aim to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals across all aspects of our work. By visiting us and taking part in our experiences, you can help to bring the SDGs to life for your learners!



Plastic Smart
Rainforest Adventure
Energy for the Future



Climate Change
Climate Justice
Puffin Detectives:
A Climate Mystery



Marine Mysteries
Deep Sea Adventure
Beneath the Waves



Natural Hazards
Quake, Rattle and Roll
Rainforest Storytelling

STORYTELLING EXPERIENCES

For Early and First Level Learners

Learners working across Early and First Levels can experience immersive and participatory opportunities in a relaxed and friendly setting through storytelling and play. These sessions explore a range of curriculum outcomes and last 45 minutes. More information, including curriculum links for each storytelling experience, can be found on our website.

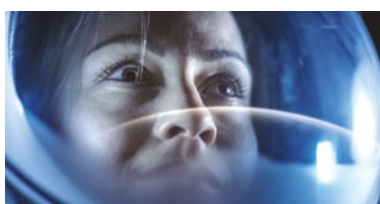


Biodiversity and Interdependence

Dinosaur Storytelling

EY-P2

Join three dinosaurs on the adventure of a lifetime after a volcanic eruption destroys their home.



Outer Space

Journey into Space

P1-P2

Blast off from the Earth, visit the Moon, handle real meteorites and discover what life is like in space!



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Marine Mysteries

EY-P2

Come along with adventurer Charlie as they set off on an expedition around Scotland's coasts before diving down to the depths of the deep dark ocean.

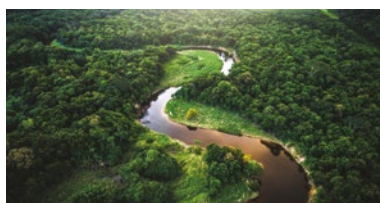


Topical Science

Puffin Detectives: A Climate Mystery

P2-P4

Meet Tammie and Norrie, two young pufflings living on the Isle of May whose homes are changing due to climate change.



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Rainforest Storytelling

EY-P2

Join Belinda the caterpillar on an adventure through the tremendous trees and help her transform into a butterfly.



Processes of the Planet

Wonderful Weather

P1-P2

Make tornadoes, dance the water cycle, see indoor lightning and explore the role of the Sun in creating our wonderful weather!

Online Presenter-Led Storytelling

Visit our website for more information about live online versions of Dinosaur Storytelling and Puffin Detectives, aimed at learners in remote and rural locations who cannot visit Dynamic Earth in person.

WORKSHOP EXPERIENCES

For Early, First and Second Level Learners

Our workshops offer in-depth and interdisciplinary opportunities to explore topics in a collaborative and investigative environment. No matter whether your learners are working at Early, First or Second levels, our expert team will support them through presenter-led teaching and practical investigation. These sessions explore a range of curriculum outcomes and last 50 minutes. More information, including curriculum links for each workshop, can be found on our website.

Primary 3-4

These workshop experiences offered at First Level allow learners to investigate scientific processes like fossilisation and the water cycle through physical activities and class-based collaboration.



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Dinosaur Detectives: Explore Extinction

Become a palaeontologist by uncovering your own dinosaur, handling fossil specimens and even dinosaur poo!



Processes of the Planet

Wonderful Weather

Make tornadoes, dance the water cycle, see indoor lightning and explore the role of the Sun in creating our wonderful weather!

Online Presenter-Led Workshops

Visit our website for more information about live online versions of Plastic Smart and Climate Change, as well as online exclusive workshop **Polar Adventure**, aimed at learners in remote and rural locations who cannot visit Dynamic Earth in person.

More Online Opportunities

Turn to page 17 to find out about more online opportunities we can offer your learners, including Meet the Scientist sessions and an online module accessible through the Young STEM Leader Programme.

To find out more and book, email groups@dynamicearth.org.uk

Primary 3-7

We offer workshop experiences covering the ocean, space, volcanoes, plastic waste and rainforests for learners across First and Second Levels. Our team will adapt and adjust the content based on the stage your learners are working at to ensure they get the most out of the session.



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Deep Sea Adventure

Become a scientist on an expedition to the deep ocean! Explore Scotland's marine heritage, animal adaptations and why it's important we study and protect our ocean today.



Outer Space

Destination Space

Explore the exciting world of human spaceflight including rocket launching, and life living and working onboard the International Space Station.



Processes of the Planet

Journey from the Centre of the Earth

Explore the structure of the Earth and link this to volcanoes and earthquakes through interactive activities and discussion.



Topical Science

Plastic Smart

Investigate the impacts of plastic on our environment and think critically about what alternatives there may be through interactive investigations and activities.



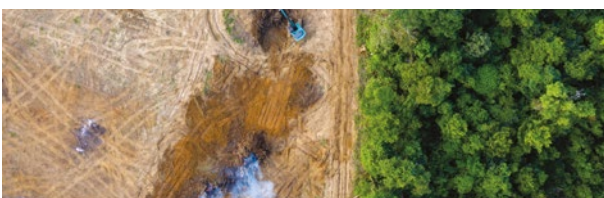
Biodiversity and Interdependence

Rainforest Adventure

Journey into the depths of Earth's incredible rainforests exploring tropical creepy crawlies, the layers of the rainforest, animal adaptations and the challenges facing Earth's tropical biomes including how choices we make at home have a global impact.

Primary 5-7

Our workshop experiences exclusively for upper primary learners dig deeper into a diverse range of threats that societies across the world are facing due to climate change and natural hazards.



Topical Science

Climate Change

Investigate the greenhouse effect, how the UK has been affected by climate change in recent decades and play 'science or fiction', an interactive game exploring the solutions being proposed to climate change.



Processes of the Planet

Quake, Rattle and Roll

Investigate natural hazards including volcanoes, tsunamis, earthquakes, tornadoes and meteorites! Work in teams to explore how we can protect ourselves from natural hazards both now and in the future.

WORKSHOP EXPERIENCES

For Third Level to Senior Phase Learners

Our secondary school workshops connect learners with topical and timely issues in science and society, highlighting how important science is in their everyday lives and futures. Making use of real datasets and case studies, and by providing access to bespoke kit, our experiences highlight how interdisciplinary learning will help us solve the local, national and international impacts of the planetary crisis. Workshops are 50 minutes long. More information, including curriculum links for each workshop, can be found on our website.

For S1 and above



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Beneath the Waves

Step into the shoes of an ocean scientist using real data sets to explore the seas surrounding Scotland, from deep sea vents to cold-water coral reefs. Identify different species and their adaptations to these harsh environments. Dive deeper into the history of ocean research and how it has evolved over time from dredging the sea bed to using remotely operated vehicles (ROVS).



Topical Science

Climate Justice

Apply and develop your knowledge of climate change by putting yourself in the shoes of nations around the world. Explore the inequity in climate change impacts and collaborate with your peers to see how with money, emissions and extreme weather all in the mix, achieving fair outcomes is a challenging international priority.



Topical Science

Energy for the Future

Apply and develop your knowledge of climate change in the context of the UK's energy mix. Explore how Scotland is planning to go green as you plan your ideal energy future. It may not be as easy as it first appears, as learners consider challenges such as affordability, land use and environmental impacts.



Processes of the Planet

Explosive Earth

Unravel the theory of plate tectonics, creating earthquakes and volcanoes along the way! Discover more about the inside of our planet, handle volcanic rocks and compete in teams to see who will survive the blast of a supervolcano.



Processes of the Planet

Natural Hazards

Investigate causes and effects of natural hazards on local and global scales, including those we need to be ready for here in the UK! Learners will work with a Google Earth dataset to determine where to build San Francisco's next major hospital.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

Our centre is located right next to Holyrood Park and the extinct volcano Arthur's Seat, a fascinating site of geological history and incredible wild space in the heart of the city centre of Edinburgh. We offer outdoor workshop opportunities for P4 and above, offering significant opportunities for learners to experience geology first hand and get up close to the natural world.

Outdoor Workshops



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Processes of the Planet

Topical Science

Air Quality Investigators

P4-P7 01:00

Explore the world of lichens and find out what their presence in an environment can tell us about the quality of the air around us.



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Processes of the Planet

Topical Science

Come Rain or Shine

P4-P7 01:00

Find out how we measure the weather using equipment to record wind speed, cloud cover and temperature, then make your own weather report!



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Processes of the Planet

Topical Science

Field Skills: Microclimates

S1+ 02:00

Learners will use sampling and data collection techniques to understand how buildings affect the microclimate of their surrounding area. They'll also process and analyse their data to draw conclusions from their investigations.



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Processes of the Planet

Topical Science

Field Skills: Slope Survey

S4+ 04:00

Learners will find out how to design a fieldwork study with planning and skills training in our discovery bases, before heading outdoors to Holyrood Park to take part in a slope analysis exploring gradient, water ingress and vegetation cover. After lunch, they'll analyse their collected data, draw conclusions and critically evaluate their methodology!



Biodiversity and Interdependence

Processes of the Planet

Topical Science

Fire and Ice

P5+ 02:00

Discover the amazing and violent geological history of Scotland as told in the rocks around Holyrood Park. Primary and secondary learners will explore evidence of tropical lagoons, lava flows and tectonic movement, all at their fingertips!

PLANETARIUM

Presenter-Led Experiences

Take an incredible journey with our specialist team of astronomers and science communicators! Edinburgh's only planetarium includes a state-of-the-art projection and sound system, and provides a truly unique experience for your learners to deepen their learning journey in a highly immersive setting.

GAZE
DISCOVER
JOURNEY
EXPLORE

Our live presenter-led experiences are unique to Dynamic Earth. All our shows last for 30 minutes.



What's Up?

Join our team for an ever-changing look at the night sky including topical and timely astronomy news stories. You'll get to gaze out at stars and planets visible in our current skies and dive into beginner friendly guides on astronomy topics.



You Are Here

Come on a journey to the very edge of our solar system and back! We'll follow in the footsteps of space missions and take a trip to planets beyond Earth to provide you with cosmic perspectives and a wee reminder that You. Are. Here!



Under Pressure: The Ocean Show

Welcome to the wonderful world of marine science! Take a deep dive to explore underwater worlds by heading to the mysterious depths of our ocean and find out how we are still unlocking the secrets of this beautiful environment.



Don't Panic

In days where it seems Earth is launching from one disaster to another, anxieties around the future of our planet mount and it seems like there isn't much we can do. In this show we'll explore how there's actually quite a lot of cause for optimism, as long as we remember, don't panic!

Full Dome Movies

As well as live planetarium shows, Dynamic Earth offers a range of movies exploring outer space, satellites and even astrobiology.



We Are Guardians

In a world out of balance, We Are Guardians looks at how ecosystems are intrinsically connected and with the increasing use of satellite monitoring, examines the links between human activities and climate change.



We Are Stars

What are we made of? Where did it all come from? Explore the secrets of our cosmic chemistry and our explosive origins. Connect life on Earth to the evolution of the Universe by following the formation of Hydrogen atoms to the synthesis of Carbon, and the molecules for life. Narrated by Andy Serkis.



CapCom Go!

Explore the Apollo Space programme – one of humankind's greatest achievements – more than 50 years on from the Moon landings!



We Are Aliens

Earth. It's now a small world. The human race is connected better and faster than ever before but what about elsewhere? We Are Aliens takes you on an epic ride in the hunt for the evidence of alien life. Narrated by Rupert Grint.

To find out more and book, email groups@dynamicearth.org.uk



ACCESSIBILITY

Dynamic Earth are committed to ensuring our experiences are as inclusive as possible. We are continuously working to improve the ways we can support all learners to get the most out of everything we offer.

VISITING US

Dynamic Earth has a number of measures in place to make it as accessible as possible for everyone who wants to visit us.



FULLY WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSIBLE

CAPTIONS ON THROUGHOUT
EXHIBITION WITH WRITTEN
TRANSCRIPTS AVAILABLE

TWO ACCESSIBLE
TOILETS

STAFF TRAINING
IN DISABILITY
AWARENESS

REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

Everyone learns in different ways and benefits from different learning environments. If you are bringing learners to take part in workshops, we are happy to make reasonable adjustments to allow your learners to get the most out of what we have to offer. When booking, please let us know of any:



Sensory needs

We can increase or decrease the sensory input of the workshop. Examples include keeping lights on, warning of loud noises, large print resources, and additional sensory activities.



Communication Needs

Let us know if your learners benefit from particular forms of communication: verbal, non-verbal, visual, or written. We may be able to adjust materials and activities during the workshop.



Physical Needs

Some of our workshops involve moving around the room or sitting on the floor, but we can set workshops up in alternative formats depending on your learners' physical needs.

The more we know about the needs of your learners when you book, the more we can prepare and support them during your visit. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

RELAXED OPENING HOURS

In addition to the tools and adjustments we can offer for every learner visiting us, we also host Relaxed Opening Hours days throughout the school year. These days aim to provide a calm and inclusive environment for learners who would benefit from a more relaxed visit.

Adaptations made on our Relaxed Opening Hours days include:

- ✓ Reduced visitor numbers
- ✓ Alterations to lighting and audio features
- ✓ Subtitles in all full-dome planetarium shows
- ✓ Designated quiet space
- ✓ One planetarium show with BSL interpretation

These days are specifically designed to provide sensory comfort without compromising on the overall immersivity of the experience. Full details can be found on our website.

To discuss the reasonable adjustments that can be made on your visit, email groups@dynamicearth.org.uk

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Dynamic Earth is fully accessible for wheelchair users, and we have several free-to-borrow tools available for visitors upon arrival:

SENSORY
MAPS

SENSORY
BAGS

SOCIAL
STORY

NOW AND NEXT
CARDS

EASY-READ
GUIDE TO CLIMATE
CHANGE



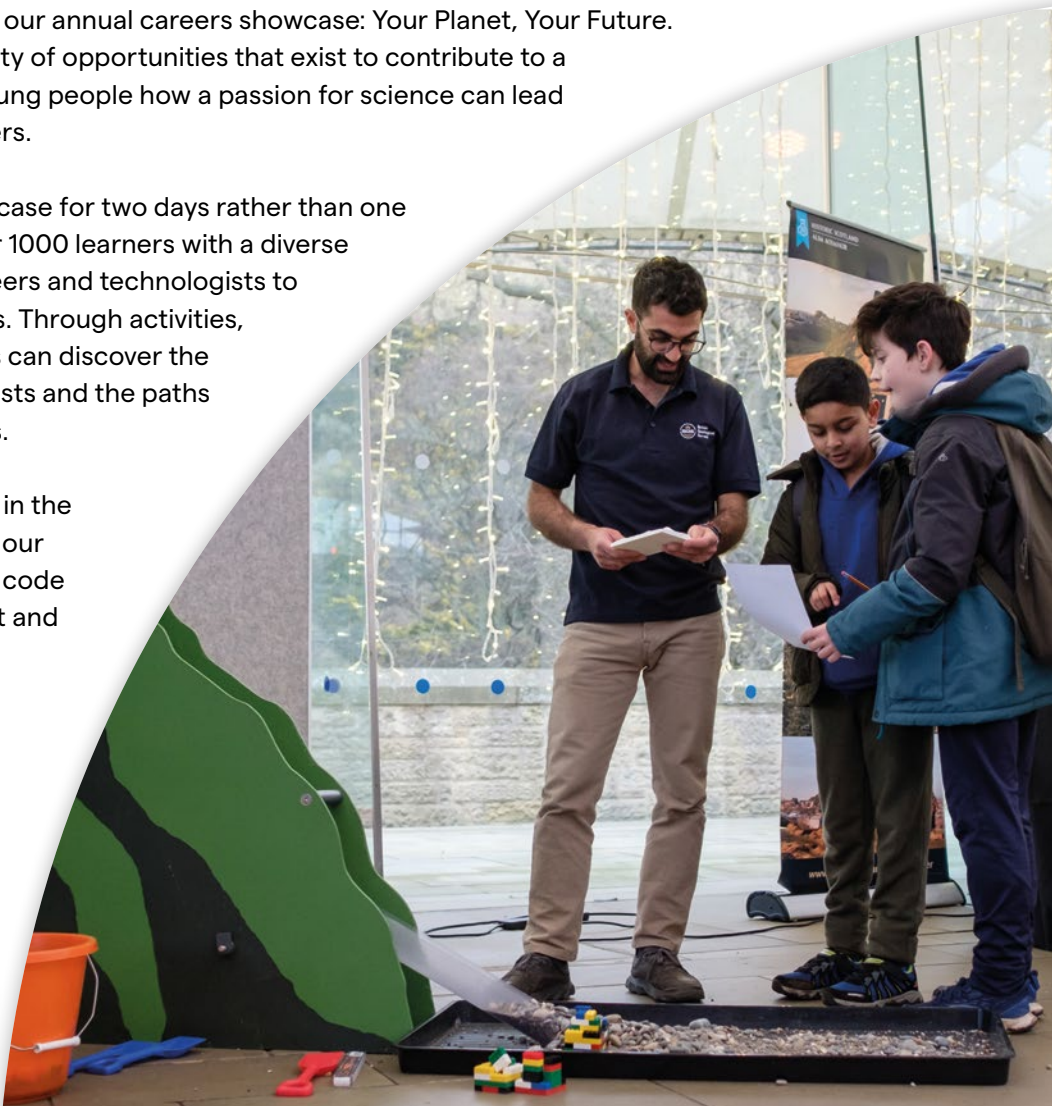
SCHOOL CAREERS SHOWCASE

YOUR PLANET, YOUR FUTURE

Every year, we provide opportunities for hundreds of learners to meet real scientists working across research and industry in our annual careers showcase: Your Planet, Your Future. We want to highlight the diversity of opportunities that exist to contribute to a sustainable future and show young people how a passion for science can lead to innovative and fulfilling careers.

In March 2025 we ran our showcase for two days rather than one for the first time, engaging over 1000 learners with a diverse range of scientists, from engineers and technologists to park rangers and volcanologists. Through activities, shows, and Q&As, your learners can discover the various roles of different scientists and the paths they took to reach their careers.

If you're interested in attending in the 2025-26 school year, sign up to our school newsletter using the QR code to be among the first to find out and book your spot.



ONLINE EVENTS AND RESOURCES

We have free online events and resources to support your learning before and after you visit our centre in person, as well as to support any learners who might face barriers getting to our centre.

MEET THE SCIENTIST

Our online live Meet the Scientist sessions are back! Available free of charge for schools across Scotland, these workshops are valuable opportunities for you to connect learners with topical science from researchers based in Scotland across a range of different Earth science areas.

Over the past two years of the programme, we've met British Antarctic Survey scientists aboard the RRS Sir David Attenborough; experts in the wonders of the fungi kingdom from the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh; and British Geological Survey scientists who have studied everything from the risks of eruptions to island communities to the seismic measurements recorded during a Taylor Swift concert!

All sessions take place at 2pm and are delivered on Microsoft Teams. Signups are done via Microsoft Forms and can be found on our website. Scan the QR Code to sign up.



YOUNG STEM LEADER PROGRAMME

Dynamic Earth are a proud delivery centre and partner on the national Young STEM Leader Programme, led by SSERC.

New for this year, we have launched an online eModule for young people to gain their Discover badge at levels 2, 3, and 4. The eModule is available for existing Young STEM Leaders within the online platform.

Through the module, your leaders will be able to explore the meaning and importance of STEM through the lens of ocean literacy, investigating Scotland's role in ocean sciences.

MEET THE SCIENTIST DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

TERM 1

Tuesday 23rd September Natural Hazards

Tuesday 7th October Outer Space

Tuesday 18th November Conservation

Tuesday 9th December Polar Extremes

TERM 2

Tuesday 27th January Energy

Tuesday 10th February Rainforests

Tuesday 17th March Dinosaurs and Evolution

TERM 3

Tuesday 28th April Climate Change

Tuesday 19th May Insects and Pollinators

Tuesday 9th June Ocean Science

YOUNG
STEM
LEADER



How far in advance should I enquire about a school visit?

Typically, most schools enquire about two to five months in advance. Our Group Bookings Officer will do their utmost to confirm your preferred time. However, availability will vary throughout the school year, so we cannot always guarantee your preferred date.

Do you come to visit schools?

We currently do not have a bookable outreach programme. However, we do visit schools around the country through in-person visits as part of science festival programmes in locations including Caithness and Orkney. We are always working on updating and evolving what we offer for schools!

Checklist

To help us arrange your visit, please provide the following information in your initial enquiry:

- The full name and address of your school
- Your preferred dates (in order of preference)
- The number of students and teachers attending
- The class or learning level of the students
- The earliest arrival time and latest departure time
- The types of activities you wish to do
- Whether you require reserved lunch space
- Whether you are interested in the transport subsidy (eligibility requirements apply)

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US

E-News

Stay up-to-date with all things Dynamic Earth Learning and Engagement with our monthly eNews! Sign up to be the first to know about exciting new opportunities for your learners (and you!) from your Earth and environmental science communication specialists.

Scan the QR Code to sign up.



Get in touch

To find out more about any of our experiences, email groups@dynamicearth.org.uk, or to make a booking, please use our online school booking enquiry form.

INSPIRING A POSITIVE FUTURE FOR US AND OUR PLANET

Find out more at
dynamicearth.org.uk/learning/schools

We thank the following organisations for their continued support of our learning and engagement experiences.



Baillie Gifford



The AEB Charitable Trust

The Behrens Foundation

Binks Trust

The JTH Charitable Trust

And the other donors whose
generosity makes our work possible.

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