

## Welcome to the STEM Ambassador news June 2016

### What's coming up? JUNE

- 4 Butterfly education day
- 5 World environment day
- 13-17 Healthy eating week
- 23 Big Bang Fair West Midlands\* Coventry
- 23 National Women in Engineering Day\*
- 25 National insect day
- 27 Railweek
- 30 Big Bang Fair East Midlands\* Derby

**RAILWEEK**  
27 JUNE - 3 JULY

From Monday June 27 to Sunday July 3, a pioneering pan-industry initiative intends to bring the rail industry in all its guises closer to schools, teachers, career advisors and students.

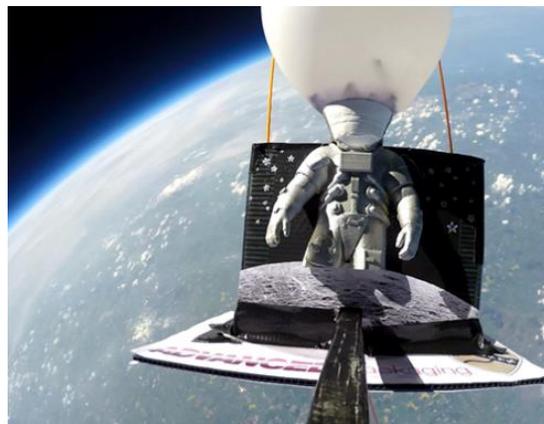
The inaugural Rail Week will celebrate the diverse and rewarding career opportunities available across the rail sector.

The dedicated week of activity aims to address the skills shortage in rail-related roles and inspire a generation of young people through a series of events, visits and talks.

The events for people at schools, colleges and universities aim to encourage them to consider careers in our great industry. Rail Week will also include a widespread schools outreach programme, facilitating ambassadors to get into the classroom and deliver inspirational activities designed for Rail Week.

For more information go to the website at <http://www.railweek.com/ambassadors/>

### STEM ambassadors get involved in a project simply 'out of this world' The KMF Young Engineer of the year Go Pro camera – Selfie into Space project



Off the planet? Well at least 30,000 metres into the stratosphere! That is exactly what a group of Staffordshire young people discovered when they invested time and effort into the KMF Young Engineer of the year Go-Pro camera - Selfie into space project.

This year the 23 competing schools have been tasked with launching a capsule attached to a weather balloon, to a potential height of 33km. Their individually designed capsule will contain two GoPro cameras, a GPS tracker and electronic equipment to carry out experiments of their choice.

Each of the schools involved has been matched to a local business or university sponsor who provided the finance and support for them to work up their ideas for capsule design and experiments ready for the launch.

Due to reduced air pressure at altitude the weather balloons burst at an altitude of around 33km. The schools then had the task of locating their capsule on its return to Earth, using their gps tracker software.

Since the project was launched in 23 high schools back in October groups of dedicated students in STEM clubs supported by staff and STEM ambassadors from local companies have been building their devices to record the data captured and ensure it's safe transmission back to earth all instruments in tact!

The launch of the balloons took place at the RAF Cosford museum with the cooperation of the RAF one of the many sponsors earlier this month on the 12<sup>th</sup> May.

Pupils involved said 'To see something I had made in space was just amazing'

Competition judging will take place in June for categories including: best capsule design; best experiment; best project video; highest altitude; best photograph and an overall prize for Young Engineer of the Year.

Prizes will be presented at a gala awards ceremony on 7th July at the King's Hall in Stoke-on-Trent.

### **Judges wanted at Big Bang Midlands Regional Fairs!**

Once again the time has come around where our regional Big Bang events will be hosting the heats of the Big Bang (formerly NSEC) competition.

We would like to ask you all if you would like to attend and judge at either:

Big Bang East Midlands: 30th June, Roundhouse Derby

Or

West Midlands: 23rd June, RICOH Arena, Coventry.

Your help would be appreciated and we will as ever provide a fantastic day with some excellent projects and of course a delicious buffet lunch.

The judging details are much the same but the criteria have changed slightly as the competition has moved from the BSA into the Big Bang fold.

For more information, please contact James Silcox the Big Bang Near Me programme Director at [www.learnbydesign.co.uk](http://www.learnbydesign.co.uk) by calling 01827 316297.

Please indicate

- which event/s you'd like to judge at
- your Company/Institution name
- Stream: Science/ Math or Eng/Tech.

## More opportunities to Volunteer!

Look out for the latest opportunities to volunteer in the bi-monthly STEM Ambassador Opportunities bulletin.

### Don't Forget to tell us!

Please email us to keep us informed of any activities you have been involved in over the last 6 months and any you are planning.

Email [rachel.comber@entrust-ed.co.uk](mailto:rachel.comber@entrust-ed.co.uk)

For more information, use the link [here](#)  
or call **01785 895400**

## Are you ready to set the next STEM Club challenge for 2016-17?

Are you passionate about your job and keen to share your experiences and knowledge with young people to help them become the STEM professionals of the future?

Can you design a **STEM club challenge or competition** for young people get involved in through a STEM club to enthuse and motivate them in an aspect of STEM linked to your role or the function of the company you work for?

If you a group of STEM ambassadors working in the same company, we would love to hear from you to discuss your ideas to engage young people with a challenge or competition to run in the next academic year starting in September.

The benefits for the company include:  
developing links with local schools, staff and young people, finding out what's happening in the world of education, and helping with recruitment of employees of the future.

For more information or to discuss further please contact

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