



CREST: Discovery Days

What they are • Results • Benefits • How you can get involved

Who are we and what do we do?



The British Science Association (BSA) develops science engagement programmes for audiences underrepresented in, and underserved by, science. We want to see a future where science is more relevant, representative, and connected to society.



CREST Awards is an education scheme managed by the BSA that inspires young people to think and behave like scientists and engineers.

CREST Awards Discovery Days

What is a Discovery Day?

CREST Discovery Awards offer a fun and achievable way to introduce STEM project work to students who can work collaboratively on a five-hour project or challenge in self-managed groups. In a Discovery Award activity, students complete a project or challenge with a clear real-world context. Upon completion students receive an award recognised by further education and employers.



Enhancing STEM engagement in schools

We ran a funded programme of CREST Discovery Awards with schools across the UK, including 'train the trainer' training, and teacher training run by our regional partners to support and up-skill teachers to run Discovery Days themselves. The funding also included free CREST Awards for all students taking part, and a grant for each school.



 **KS2-KS3 (ages 10-14)**

 **Time required: 5 hours**

In total we engaged:



schools



teachers



students

Results: What do students and teachers think?

Students

For many students, particularly those with limited science capital, Discovery Days help by:



Increasing confidence when engaging with STEM subjects and presenting science work to their fellow students



Increasing young people's appreciation of the role of research



Developing independence and resilience as well as increasing motivation and pride in their work



Extending investigation beyond a single lesson to effectively sequence and retrieve procedural knowledge



Understanding that there is not necessarily a correct outcome to practical work, and valuing practical work as a learning experience



Developing communications skills and building relationships with other students and staff

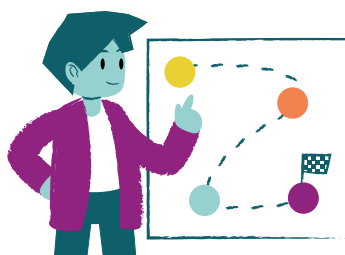


“The Discovery Day helped them think more positively about potential STEM careers. We are in a very deprived area. Science capital is very low, so increasing that is a big thing for us. We are asking children to be more aware of science around them in the wider world and how it impacts on them.”

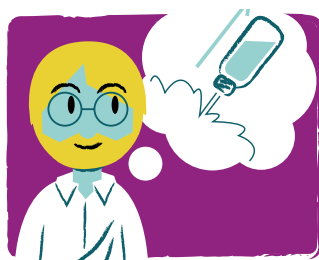
Primary school teacher, North Wales

Teachers

Discovery Days benefit teachers too, here's what they said:



Teachers who participated in CPD for CREST training sessions were more likely to be involved in CREST activity



Discovery Days help teachers to think about their school's STEM enhancement offering and to plan for extra-curricular events



Through organising and delivering Discovery Days, teachers have been able to expand their STEM support networks at all levels

Get involved



Let's do
more **CREST**
in schools.

Find out more about CREST Discovery Awards on our website:

crestawards.org/crest-discovery

Or scan the QR code:



Start planning your CREST projects today with our 'Machines of the future' Discovery pack:

discoverylibrary.crestawards.org/#tab_dtRe3ZBDPruoYIMx

Or scan the QR code:



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