

Interactive inspiration



The ever-popular hands-on, brains-on **Launchpad** gallery has been relocated and reinvented. From firm favourites to world-firsts, *Launchpad* is for 8- to 14-year-olds and packed with over 50 interactive exhibits, plus electrifying shows and lively demos, all from the wonderful world of physics. Since opening in November 2007, *Launchpad* has welcomed a staggering 2 million visitors!

Launchpad is supported by: Shell
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Drama characters

Where else can you meet Isaac Newton, Michael Faraday, Mary Seacole and even a pregnant man? The Science Museum's team of drama characters tread the boards of the Museum to meet the visitors, explaining the life and times of their character. Gene Cernan, the last man to step on the Moon, and Amy Johnson, the first woman to fly solo from the UK to Australia, can also be found in the Museum galleries. Played by professional actors, the drama characters are available for TV, radio and photo opportunities.



Pattern Pod is a hands-on gallery that was created especially for 5- to 8-year-olds. Using multi-sensory technology, *Pattern Pod* encourages children to recognise and copy patterns – or create entirely new ones of their own. *Pattern Pod* also encourages learning through play and exploration, enabling children to develop key science skills in a fun and stimulating way.



For the youngest budding Einsteins, **The Garden** is the place to be. Playing is just another way of learning and *The Garden* is ideal for 3- to 6-year-olds to discover science in an exciting, multi-sensory environment. Young minds are free to explore floating and sinking, shadows and reflections, music, giant building blocks and much more while developing the skills of observing, predicting and testing.



Explainers

Whether helping a group solve a puzzle in *Launchpad*, performing a science show or telling the story behind the science, the Explainers are always on hand to tend to your science needs and are instantly noticeable in their orange T-shirts. Many of the Explainers hold postgraduate qualifications in science and all are rigorously trained in how to make science simple and fun. Explainers are media trained so they can demonstrate experiments and give explanations for broadcast and print media.