



Inspiring Minds

Linking real life and learning to heighten aspirations



On 15th March 2018, academics from the University of York's Department of Physics Department hosted a Space Day in collaboration with York Cares Inspiring Minds programme.

47 Year 4 and 5 pupils from Osbaldwick and Haxby Road primary schools joined academics on University campus for a space – themed activity day to excite and inspire children with science.

To kick-start the day, in teams, pupils were challenged to design and create their own unique flying egg spaceships to save their eggs from smashing before putting them to the test of gravity. The pupils impressed with their creative solutions and effective team-working abilities.

In an inflatable planetarium, pupils were prompted to think inquisitively about the composition of the universe. Flying through the Solar System, they observed the planets, watched the sun move across the sky, learned about constellations and discovered what happens to stars during the day time through an engaging animated film narrated by Rupert Grint.

After lunch, pupils ventured over to the Astro Campus to explore the wonders of the universe at the observatory through an optical telescope, before joining together for an interactive physics lecture with some exciting demonstrations in the afternoon.

“The group had a fantastic time at the Space Day, they won't stop talking about it! The pupils had great fun and it was a really interactive way of learning.

Year 4 Teacher, Haxby Road Academy

Inspiring Minds programme

Inspiring Minds activities are designed to:

- Build confidence and team working skills
- Improve adult interactions
- Enhance communication skills
- Provide pupils with the opportunity to articulate their ideas in coherent presentations
- Modules and additional activities include clear curriculum links to English, Maths and Science

If you would like to get involved in our Inspiring Minds programme then please contact York Cares on **01904 323482** or via info@yorkcares.co.uk

Results and Achievements

- Pupils learnt about the range of roles within science and the different routes people may take into this field of work
- Pupils participated in confidence and team working skills from the hands-on activities
- University academics were able to share their professional skills and knowledge to inspire pupils about science and academic careers

“It was an extraordinary day. I learnt so many interesting facts I thought I would never find out.”

Year 5 pupil from St Barnabas

Get in touch

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