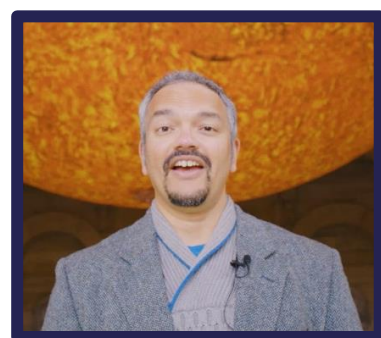


Life goes WEST

Celebrating 10 years of partnership

'Life goes WEST' is an event to celebrate **Life Science Centre's 25th anniversary** and **10 years of partnership** with the West End Schools Trust (WEST). The event has been funded by the Association of Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) and the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC).

Each of the 9 WEST schools celebrated with a **half-day visit** from the team at Life. The visit began with a whole school assembly introducing the topic of weather on other planets. **Dr David Rosario** sent a video explaining his work as a Senior Lecturer in Astrophysics at Newcastle University using the James Webb Space Telescope to investigate black holes. He challenged students to build a structure to survive the harsh weather of another planet.



Year's 1 and 2 built **waterproof** structures to withstand the **acid rain** of Venus, that were tested by **flooding** with water. Year's 3 and 4 built **strong** structures to withstand the **diamond rain** of Saturn, that were tested with **juggling balls** thrown off the surface. Year's 5 and 6 build **stable** structures to withstand the **high winds** of Neptune, that were tested with a **leaf blower**. Each group excellently explained why they had chosen the materials and design of their structure. Reception created amazing scientific artwork using felt tips and coffee filters to make their own Northern Lights.

The Life team presented a show called '**Seeing Space**' full of exciting scientific demonstrations about how **STFC scientists** use telescopes to study weather on other planets. The audience were wowed by sparks from a Van de Graff generator replicating lightning storms on Venus and Jupiter.

Dr Vicky Fawcett sent a video explaining her work as an Astronomer at Newcastle University. She challenged students to use **weather stations**, previously gifted by Life, to forecast the best weather conditions for **stargazing**. Each student was awarded a **sticker**, with the school receiving a **certificate** to mark the occasion as well as a **telescope** to begin exploring the universe.

We'd like to say a massive thank you from the team at Life to everyone who took part in the event! 😊

