

CRASH BANG SQUELCH!

10am - 5pm Saturday 14th March

2015



What is Crash Bang Squelch!?

Crash, Bang, Squelch! is a day of hands-on science experiments held in the Department of Zoology at the University of Cambridge as part of the annual Cambridge Science Festival. The event is run by student society Cambridge Hands-On Science (fondly known as CHaOS) and aims to show children and their families that science can be interactive, exciting and fun! We take over the department's teaching lab and fill it with cool experiments, each of which is demonstrated by a friendly and enthusiastic student volunteer.

The first Crash, Bang, Squelch! was run in 1998. Since then it's become bigger every year and,

despite construction works on the New Museums site this year, we were still as busy as ever. The full programme of 7 lectures again proved very popular with our visitors.

What can visitors expect?

We have over 60 different experiments, covering all aspects of science: biology and the human body, chemistry and physics, geology, and engineering and maths! Each experiment is staffed by a student volunteer who will explain the science behind the fun demonstration. We work really hard to make sure that our demonstrations and explanations are tailored to fit the child and their family, giving each of our visitors a unique interactive experience!



NEW IN 2015!

This year at Crash Bang Squelch! CHaOS teamed up with Cambridge Robogals and ran an exciting robotics workshop, introducing visitors to robot building and programming!



CHaOS talks at Crash Bang Squelch!

We ran seven talks for the fourth time in 2015. The talks were again very well attended, and in between the crashes and bangs, there were a lot of opportunities for the audience to participate!

Richard Mifsud, a PhD Crystallographer, revealed to us the beauty and uses of crystals in the modern world.

Joe Hooton, a 4th year undergraduate studying chemistry, explained to us what the universe is made from.

Vamsee Bheemireddy, a 4th year Masters student in Electronic Engineering, showed us how we can send signals and make messages.

David Ansell, the 'Kitchen Scientist' specialist of The Naked Scientists gave his famous 'Vacuum bazookas and custard fireballs' talk.

Gourav Khullar, a Masters student in Astrophysics, told us how galaxies are the factories of the universe.

Sonja Dunbar, a PhD student studying protein-protein interactions, showed us how plants fight back.

Jasmine Rivett, a PhD student working on ultrafast laser spectroscopy, revealed to us how we can send light around the world in only 0.1344 seconds.



What did the visitors think of CHaOS talks?

This year 106 visitors of all ages filled out our CHaOS talks questionnaire, here's what they thought:

"IT WAS BRILLIANT!"

"Thank you for organising it, it was really good and I really enjoyed it"

"Well presented, very suitable for children, thank you for entertaining!"

"A-M-A-Z-I-N-G"

"Fun science, thanks!"

"The enthusiasm of the presenter was really infectious!"

Over 95% of visitors said that they enjoyed the CHaOS talk they attended and would come again!

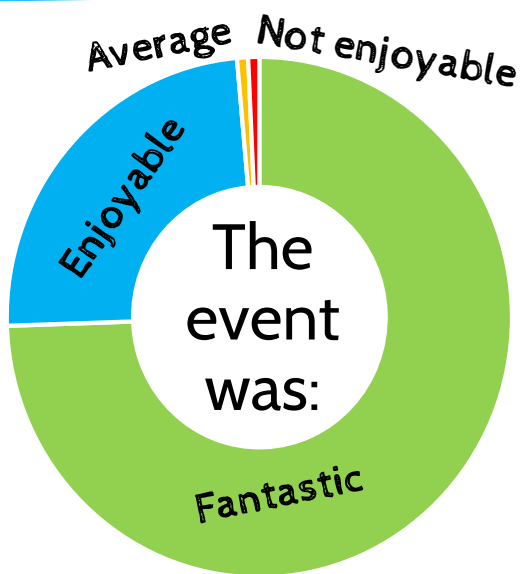
What did the visitors think of Crash Bang Squelch!?

This year a whopping 141 visitors filled out our questionnaire! Here's what they thought:

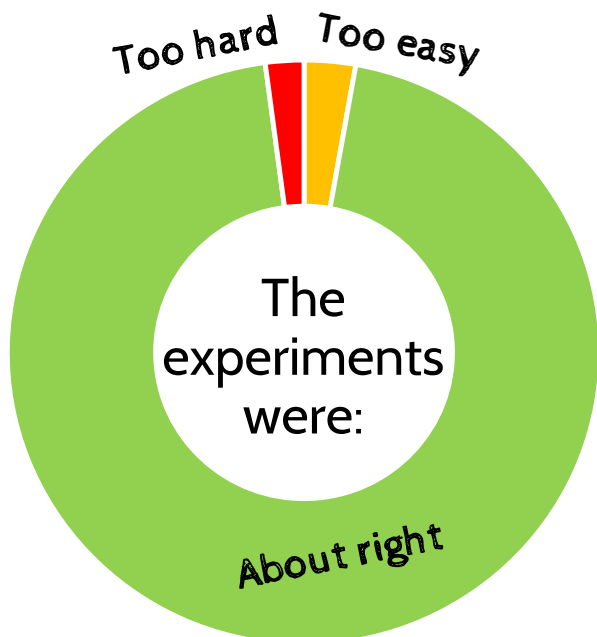
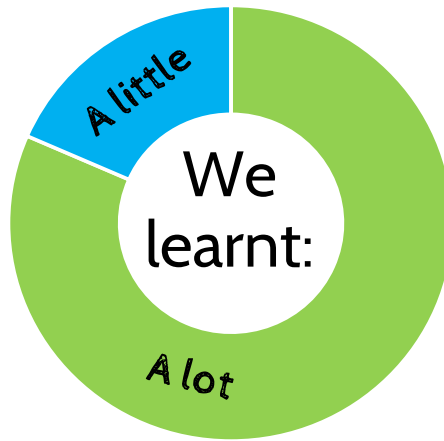
"Super event. Thanks to all the student volunteers. Great for our kids to talk to them in particular"



Only 43% of visitors had been to a CHaOS event before but 99% said they would come again!



"It was excellent - well done everybody"
"You were all great, well done and thank you!"



"Absolutely awesome"
"Very educational and informative"
"Brilliant! Reinforced a lot of school work. Concepts of appropriate age for 13 year old but made accessible for all."



You've asked for: "More bangs, more squelches, more crashes!"



The CHaOS committee would like to thank:

The University of Cambridge Department of Zoology for allowing us to use their lab and lecture theatres.

Elizabeth MacRae, Jacek Zalewski and Ian Goldstone in the Department of Zoology for all of their help and support in the run up to and during the event.

The Cambridge Science Centre for sponsoring the fantastic T-shirts!

Neil Stanford for electrical safety testing all of the CHaOS equipment.

The Cambridge Science Festival team for all of their help with organisation and publicity.

The Science Festival stewards who helped us keep visitors moving smoothly and their numbers steady throughout the day.

Tim Weil for the Drosophila and Harry Druif for the equipment from physics.

All of the student volunteers who gave up their time to be part of the event.

Everyone who came as a visitor!

Crash Bang Squelch! 2015 was generously sponsored by:



advancing the chemical sciences



Cambridgeshire Community Foundation

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