

What's on today?

6 July 2025

To view the full exhibition programme, scan the QR code or visit royalsociety.org/summer



Talks and activities

All talks and activities are free and do not require a ticket.

Talks

Admittance for our talks is first come, first served. Spaces are limited, so we advise you arrive at least 10 minutes before the advertised start time.

All our talks have live subtitles and some will be live streamed on our YouTube channel.

Drop-in activities

These activities run continuously and you can drop in at any time. Please note if the venue is at capacity you may have to wait.

11am

Talk



Digging the dirt on some of the world's oldest fossils

Basement

Step back in time, 500 million years ago, with palaeobiologist Dr Ross Anderson, to explore how antibacterial clay-rich rocks may hold the answer. Discover how the exceptionally preserved fossils within illuminate life on Earth before skeletons or shells appeared, shedding light on the earliest multicellular life.

12 noon

Talk



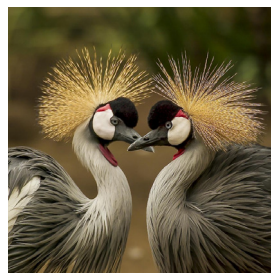
Other worlds

Basement

Join Royal Society Research Fellow and astronomer at the University of Cambridge, Dr Amy Bonsor, for a journey of discovery as we reveal how astronomers search for planets beyond the Solar System.

1pm

Talk



The secret sense of birds

Basement

Take flight with Dr Carla du Toit, a Newton International Fellow from the University of Cambridge, as she explores the fascinating sensory world of birds.

2pm

Screening



Trailblazing scientists: celebrating 80 years of women Fellows

Basement

Special screening of two short documentaries showcasing trailblazing scientists Dame Kathleen Lonsdale FRS and Dr Marjory Stephenson FRS, the first women elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1945. Join us to discover the remarkable legacies of these two pioneering scientists.

3pm

Talk



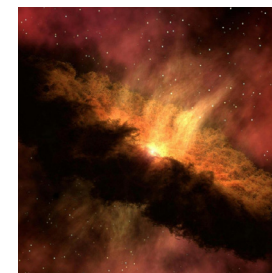
Building a digital heart with AI

Basement

Join Dr Abhirup Banerjee, Royal Society University Research Fellow and Principal Investigator at the University of Oxford, as he explores how cutting-edge artificial intelligence is reshaping the way we see and understand the human heart.

4pm

Talk



The birth of planets

Basement

Dr Farzana Meru, Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Fellow and Reader in the Astronomy and Astrophysics group at the University of Warwick, will present what we know about the planet formation environment, how planets may form and evolve in their parent disc.



Naturalist's sojourns in Jamaica and Lincolnshire

City of London room 1

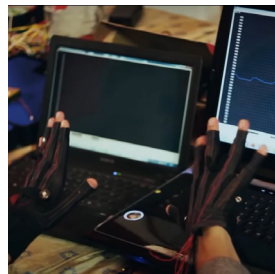
Drop in to this hands-on citizen science session with the Sir Joseph Banks Society, funded by the Places of Science grant scheme. Try activities like plant identification, collection, illustration, and photography. Discover how these skills have evolved by comparing your work with that of Richard Hill, a remarkable naturalist from 200 years ago.



Sand glorious sand: the art of making rocks

City of London room 1

Dig deep into the Earth's past with Dr Ross Anderson and his research group as you investigate how rocks are formed. Discover how rocks record our planet's ancient environments from the deep sea to deserts, and how we, as geologists, can use rocks to understand our planet's dynamic past.



Sound explorers: discover inclusive music-making

City of London room 1

Join Drake Music for a fun, hands-on experience with a range of accessible musical instruments and inclusive music technology. Try out innovative tools designed for all abilities and discover new ways to create sound, rhythm, and melody – no musical experience needed.



Data takes flight

City of London room 2

Meet the team from Yorkshire's own Museum of North Craven Life, funded by the Places of Science grant scheme. Drop in to help them chart data from their collections dating back to the 1890s and build a picture of changing bird populations. Discover what this can reveal about climate change, habitat loss, and the positive impact we can make by restoring landscapes.



The deep

City of London room 2

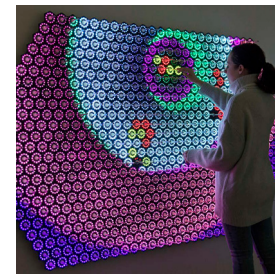
Have you ever wondered what it would be like to visit the deepest, most mysterious parts of the ocean? Explore the 'Museum in a box' to hear a first-hand account from Dr Nicolai Goterman of the 'alien world' of the deep sea. From meeting bizarre sea creatures to visiting a deep-sea volcano his stories, recorded as part of the Places for Science project, give an insight into a hidden world. Join the Diving Museum team for hands on fun and creative activities inspired by his tales.



Listen. Sense. See. Move. Understand the heart

Kohn Centre

Follow the rhythm of the heart on this interactive journey exploring how doctors capture different types of cardiac data - from sounds and signals to images - and how this information can be integrated to build a personalised digital twin of the heart. Join Dr Abhirup Banerjee and his research team for a mix of tactile, visual, and auditory activities, engaging for all ages.



Quantum jungle

Kohn Centre

Step into the Quantum Jungle, an interactive installation that combines tactile springs and light to bring the concept of quantum particles to life. Designed by engineer, designer, and artist Robin Baumgarten, this one-of-a-kind art installation offers an engaging way to explore the fascinating world of quantum mechanics.

Don't miss:
11am: BSL guided tours

9.30am-6pm:
Faraday's colloids