

Free Drop-in Activities

In addition to our daily talks which are run twice, once at 2pm and then repeated at 3pm, we have a range of exciting drop-in activities throughout the day.

Our hands on activities will vary, but there will be ample opportunity to get a closer look at what is happening inside and around us, and see how this can affect our health and environment.

Here are just a few examples of our fun filled activities.

11am-4pm, 7-13 April
Real Life Science Studio
John Hope Gateway
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
FREE / SUITABLE FOR ALL



Homes for Bees

Solitary bees are great pollinators and fun to watch. Make and decorate a bee house from bamboo harvested in the Garden. At home place the bee house in a sunny spot, a windowsill is ideal, and be patient...

Buzz Pollination

See how bumblebees use vibrations from their wing muscles to shake pollen from certain sorts of flowers. Use our interactive model to explore pollination in a fun and easy to understand way.

Disease Detectives

Viruses, bacteria and parasites can cause people and animals to feel unwell. See how diagnostics tests can be used to identify the culprit and what can be done to stop them striking again.



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SEFARI is the collective of six Research Institutes who deliver the Scottish Government funded Strategic Research Programme.



Edinburgh International Science Festival 2018
SEFARI activities programme



Leading ideas for better lives



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Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Science sits at the heart of many of the biggest challenges we face as individuals, in society and across the world. Providing enough healthy and nutritious food while looking after our environment is one of those challenges.

Supported by the Scottish Government the Scottish Environment, Food and Agriculture Research Institutes (SEFARI) is a unique collective delivering world class research across agriculture, the environment, food and land.

Our programme has been developed by scientists and involved young people with the help of the youth citizenship organisation Young Scot. This approach was inspired by the designation of 2018 as the Year of Young People.

Science Festival Talks Programme



Nae Mair Tatties

Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 April
2pm & 3pm

Can you imagine fish without chips, bangers without mash, or haggis and neeps without tatties? The late blight disease threatens our potato crop, but help is at hand from the many wild relatives of the potato.



Royal
Botanic Garden
Edinburgh



The Good, The Bad and The Bugs

Monday 9 April | 2pm & 3pm

Wholegrain cereals encourage the beneficial bugs in our guts that keep us healthy, but sometimes cereals contain unwanted toxins. How do we reap the rewards and at the same time avoid food contamination?



The Rowett
Institute

Berry Good

Tuesday 10 April | 2pm & 3pm

Do you really need a reason to eat delicious berries as part of your normal diet? Come and hear about how and why they are good for you, how to get most benefit, and why they may hold the key to combatting some degenerative diseases like Parkinson's.



The James
Hutton
Institute



The Beast Within Us

Wednesday 11 April | 2pm & 3pm

Many different parasites choose to live within us and other animals. How do we become infected, and how do the parasites survive? Could parasites help us to develop new treatments for allergic diseases?



Moredun



Creating Nutritional Diets with Maths

Thursday 12 April | 2pm & 3pm

There are thousands of foods we can choose from, all with different amounts of nutrients we need, and some with too much of the bad stuff. Creating the right mix to stay healthy is a kind of maths problem with interesting answers.



BioSS



SRUC



Let Sleeping Cows Lie

Friday 13 April | 2pm & 3pm

How important is sleep to cows? Many of us enjoy eating dairy products, so we need to know how to keep our cows healthy and happy. New research is exploring how important sleep is for cows, and how we can help them to sleep better.