

2014-2016

IMPACT REPORT



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BeScience STEM, founded by Jessica Okoro, has made significant strides in promoting STEM education among children and communities through innovative and engaging programs. From 2014 to 2016, BeScience STEM organised various events and workshops that reached thousands of participants. This report highlights the impact, achievements, and future goals of BeScience STEM during this period.



MISSION

To inspire and engage young people in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics+) through creative and interactive experiences.

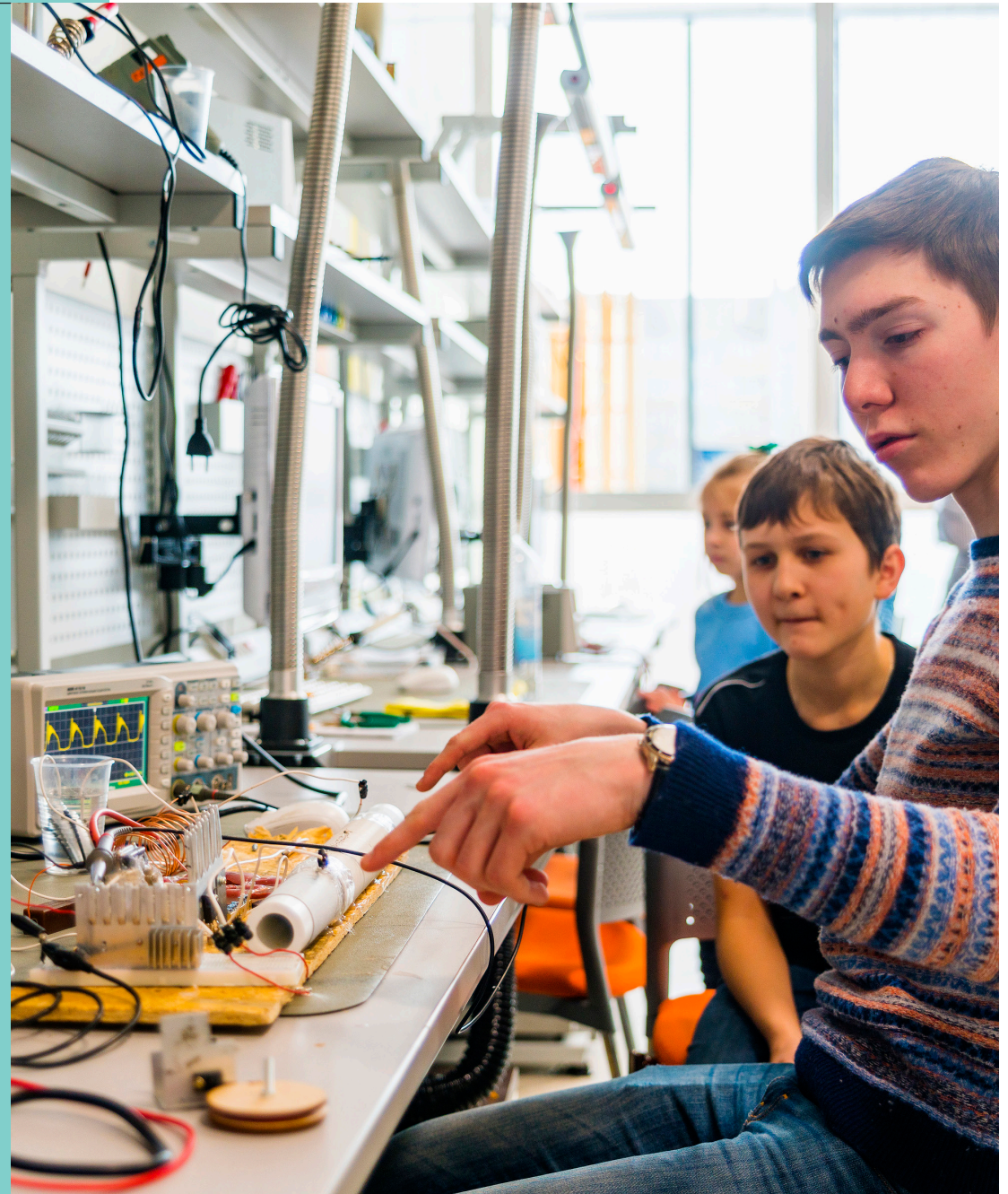
VISION

To create a future where all young people have the opportunity and resources to explore STEM, regardless of their background.



OVERVIEW

Letter from Leadership	04
Impact Metrics and Outcomes	05
Key Programs and Awards	06
Fundraising and Development	10
Volunteer and Staff Contributions	10
Partnerships and Collaborations	10
Goals for the Future	11
Acknowledgements	11
Contact Information	12



LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Patrons,

It is with great pride and immense gratitude that I present to you the impact report for BeScience STEM, covering the remarkable journey we embarked on from 2014 to 2016. This period has been transformative, filled with groundbreaking initiatives, inspiring events, and substantial growth. Our mission to inspire and educate young minds in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) has seen tremendous progress, thanks to the unwavering support of our volunteers, partners, and the communities we serve.

Throughout this journey, we hosted several impactful events. The Highcross Creative Kids Lab Event in 2014 engaged over 117 children with educational science activities. In 2015, we launched the STEM Juniors Clubs, offering hands-on projects and guest talks. Our Creative Kids Event at Brent Cross attracted over 800 participants with diverse activities. We also introduced Library Lab, which brought interactive STEM workshops to seven libraries, reaching over 500 attendees. Additionally, our first free BeScience geology session at De Montfort University captivated children with fossil and rock explorations.

Our efforts garnered significant recognition in 2016. I was celebrated as a Rare Rising Star and featured in both TEDx Talks and The Guardian for significant contributions to STEM education. Library Lab received the Award Winning Project of The Year at the DMU Square Mile Awards, and BeScience STEM triumphed at the DMU Pitch2Win Awards, winning £1,000 and support for future endeavours. The DMUGlobal Advert also highlighted our emotional journey and achievements, showcasing a profound impact in STEM education.

Reflecting on these accomplishments, I am filled with optimism for the future. Our journey has just begun, and we are committed to expanding our reach, developing new programs, and fostering a lifelong love of STEM in even more young minds. The dedication and passion of our volunteers, partners, and benefactors have been instrumental in our success, and I am confident that together, we will continue to inspire and empower the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators.

Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey. Your support and belief in our mission have made all the difference.

With sincere gratitude,



Jessica Okoro
Founder, BeScience STEM



“ ”

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IMPACT METRICS AND OUTCOMES



4,000+

Children and families
Participants Engaged



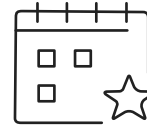
110+

Volunteers
Volunteers Involved



87%

Positive responses in
138 Questionnaires
Survey Feedback



6

Major Events
Event Held



25+

Workshops
Workshops Delivered



Featured in The Guardian,
recognized as a Rare Rising Star,
and featured by TEDx Talks
Media Coverage

KEY PROGRAMS AND AWARDS

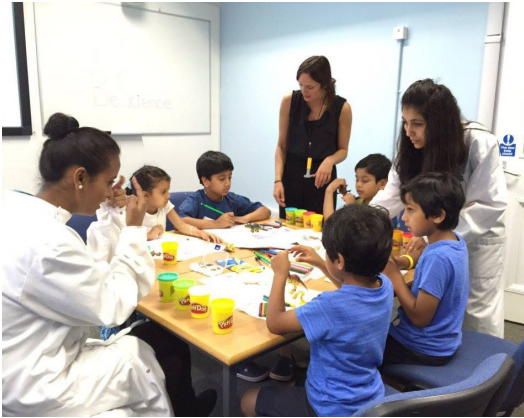
Highcross Creative Kids Lab Event (July 2014)

Creative KidsLAB, aims to inspire children's understanding of the fundamentals of science using innovative and creative methods. The most important outcome of this event is to inspire children, to have them leave thinking; 'I'm a scientist and I can achieve whatever I want'; and maybe some will go home and want to do further research and learning.

- Location: Highcross Shopping Centre, Leicester
- Dates: Saturday, July 12th, and Sunday, July 13th, 2014
- Purpose: To inspire and educate children about science by showing that it can be fun and interesting.
- Activities:
 - Writing what science means to them on whiteboards and lab coats
 - Questionnaires for mothers and children
 - Junk modelling (e.g., building a parachute, lava lamp, car, and rocket)
 - Making fridge magnets
 - Drawing around bodies and placing organs in the right spots
 - Corn flour + water volcano eruption
 - Play dough activities
 - Microorganism exploration (microscopes, movies, Germ House game)
- Participation: 117 children attended, not including their parents.
- Outcome: Raised awareness of STEM and created excitement among participants.



KEY PROGRAMS AND AWARDS



STEM Juniors Clubs (August 2015)

STEM Juniors is a weekly club that provides children with hands-on projects and guest talks, aiming to enrich their understanding of STEM subjects.

Focus: Weekly clubs for KS1-3 children.

- Structure: Clubs meet once a week for an hour.
- Activities:
 - Hands-on projects related to a new STEM topic each week
 - Take-home projects to extend the STEM experience
 - Industry guest speakers
 - Educational excursions
 - Debates on STEM-related topics
 - Mentoring and competitions
 - Collectible badge reward system
- Outcome: Enhanced STEM learning beyond the school curriculum, fostering a positive attitude towards STEM among young learners.

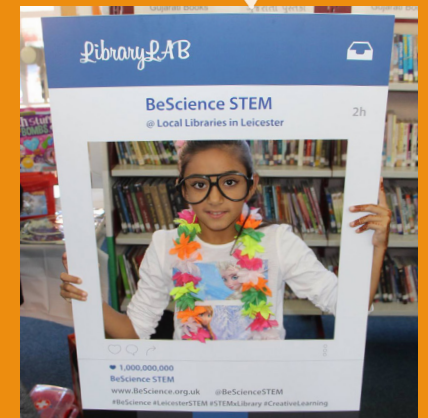
Leicester Library Lab (September 2015)

LibraryLAB is a part of the BeScience pioneering movement, this program is a miniature interactive laboratory at the local libraries, giving the community the opportunity to participate in fun, hands-on STEM activities for free.

I thought it was for proper brainy people but it was great'. This has enabled our libraries to deliver one of our key objectives-Informal Learning Outside School."

— Paul Gobey
(Leicester Area Development Manager and Neighborhood Services)

- Locations: St.Barnabas,Belgrave Library,Westcotes,Highfields,Beaumont Leys,New Parks, Hamilton.
- Frequency: Once a month on Saturdays
- Activities: Interactive, hands-on STEM sessions including experiments and demonstrations.
- Participation: Over 500 attendees, ages ranging from 3 to 60+.
- Impact: Increased interest in STEM among a diverse age group, providing informal learning opportunities outside of school.

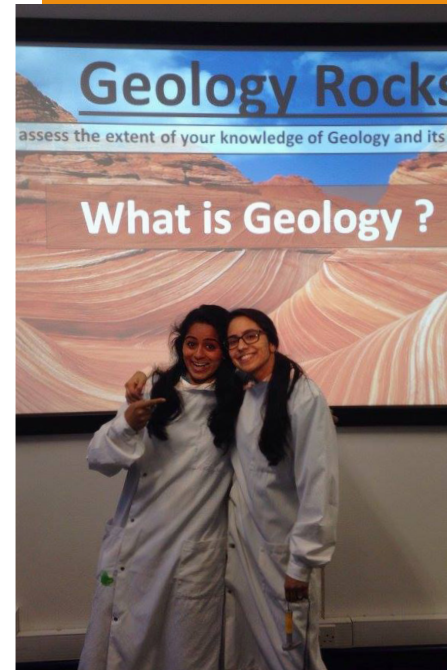


KEY PROGRAMS AND AWARDS

Brent Cross Creative Kids Event (August 2015)

Attracting over 800 participants, this event featured interactive science experiments and various activities under the theme “unity in diversity.” It was designed to generate excitement about science and promote hands-on learning.

- Date: August 9th, 2015
- Location: Brent Cross Shopping Centre
- Activities:
 - Science experiments
 - Pop-up photo booth
 - Henna art
 - Candle decorating
 - Exhibitions and music
- Theme: “Unity in Diversity”
- Participation: Over 800 interactions
- Outcome: Promoted science through diverse and engaging activities, generating interest and potential future bookings for larger Kids Lab events.



BeScience Free Tuition (August 2015)

Targeted at children, this workshop focused on geology, including fossil and rock exploration. It offered an interactive learning experience aligned with the national science curriculum.

- Date: August 22nd, 2015
- Location: De Montfort University, Leicester
- Focus: Introduction to Geology for children aged 5-12 years.
- Activities:
 - Exploring fossils and rocks
 - Comparing different rock groups
 - Understanding how fossils are made
 - Using appropriate terminology
- Outcome: Enhanced understanding of geology concepts among young learners.

KEY PROGRAMS AND AWARDS



- **The Guardian Interview (August 2016)**

Jessica Okoro's journey and achievements with BeScience STEM were featured in The Guardian. The interview highlighted her efforts to make STEM education more inclusive and engaging.

- **DMUGlobal Advert (2016)**

De Montfort University's advert featured Jessica Okoro reflecting on her emotional journey as a Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Science graduate.

The video highlighted her diagnosis with dyslexia and the launch of her pioneering business to teach young people about STEM. Jessica shared her emotional experience during filming, underscoring the significance of her achievements and the challenges overcome.

- **TEDx Talks (December 2016)**

Jessica Okoro was featured in TEDx Talks, where she shared her journey and the innovative approach of BeScience STEM. Her talk emphasised overcoming challenges and fostering a positive attitude towards STEM subjects.

BeScience STEM Recognition (2016)

- **Rare Rising Star (April 2016)**

Jessica was honoured as a Rare Rising Star, recognizing her significant impact on STEM education through BeScience STEM. This accolade highlighted her contributions to making STEM learning more engaging and accessible.

- **Library Lab - Award Winning Project of The Year (April 2016)**

Library Lab received the Award Winning Project of The Year at the DMU Square Mile Awards for its effective implementation of science activities in libraries. This recognition celebrated its role in enhancing community science education.

- **DMU Pitch2Win Awards (May 2016)**

Jessica Okoro won £1,000 and support for BeScience STEM at the Pitch2Win Awards. The award acknowledged the program's success in inspiring 4,000 young people through creative STEM learning sessions.



FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

- Strategies: Crowdfunding, grant applications, sponsorships
- Key Achievements: Secured £1,000 from DMU Pitch2Win, received community donations
- Future Plans: Expand fundraising efforts to support more events and workshops



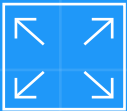
VOLUNTEER AND STAFF CONTRIBUTIONS

- Volunteers: 110+ volunteers contributed 500+ hours
- Staff: Dedicated team of trained STEM facilitators
- Training: Volunteers received training in event facilitation and STEM education

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

- Key Partners: De Montfort University, Highcross Shopping Centre, Leicester Libraries
- Collaborations: Worked with local businesses and educational institutions to host events

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE



Expand Reach: Increase the number of workshops and participants



Enhance Curriculum: Develop new and exciting STEM activities



Build Partnerships: Collaborate with more schools and community organisations



Secure Funding: Obtain grants and sponsorships to sustain and grow programs

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have supported BeScience STEM over the past few years. Your contributions and collaborations have been invaluable to our success.

- **Volunteers:** For their time, dedication, and enthusiasm in making every event a success.
- **Partners:**
 - **De Montfort University:** For providing venues, resources, and ongoing support, especially through the DMU Square Mile initiative.
 - **Highcross Shopping Centre:** For hosting our Highcross Creative Kids Lab Event and providing a prime location for our activities.
 - **Leicester Libraries:** For partnering with us on the Library Lab program, helping to bring STEM education to the community.
 - **Brent Cross Shopping Centre:** For facilitating the Creative Kids Event and supporting our mission to engage children with STEM.
 - **Participants:** The children and families who attended our workshops and events, bringing their curiosity and energy.
 - **Donors:** For their generous financial contributions, enabling us to reach more children and expand our programs.
 - **Supporters:** Including the staff at Some Where To..., who helped us secure locations and provided logistical support for our events.

Thank you all for believing in the vision of BeScience STEM and helping us make a difference in the lives of so many young people.

For more information, please contact us at:

Email: hello@bescience.org.uk

Website: <https://bescience.org.uk/>

Compliance and Transparency BeScience STEM is committed to transparency and ethical practices. Our financial statements and impact reports are available upon request. We adhere to all regulations and standards for educational and Community interest companies.