

IPIC School Activities

IPIC offer a number of in-class activities, detailed below.

Playing with Rainbows

Playing with Rainbows is an interactive workshop for infant-level students. The activities include hands-on play with colourful everyday objects like candy and food colouring and optical elements like diffraction glasses to introduce the idea of light and matter interaction, optics and science. Class is intended to be slow-paced in mid-size groups to allow for repetitive experiments, testing own ideas and loads of questions.

Target Audience: 4 – 7 years' old

Group Size: maximum 20

The Secret Spectrum

The Secret Spectrum is a workshop which introduces students to science through an interactive activity where they build their own 'instrument' and draw their own observations about the true colour of light. This workshop allows for a highly interactive hands-on classroom activity. The workshop also gives ample opportunity for Q&A in the classroom to get the students thinking about the different types of scientists, the work they do and where they do it.

Target Audience: 8 – 12 years' old

Group Size: maximum 20

The Evolution of Communication

The Evolution of Communication workshop is an interactive workshop which introduces the different types of communication humans have used over the centuries. Participants are taken through three methods of communication – Morse Code, Telephone and Fibre Optics – and asked to test and evaluate the methods. Participants are asked to come to their own conclusions on which method of communication is best and why. Following this, researchers will give a brief overview of optical communication research at IPIC and the future of communications. Participants are invited to question the methods and to hypothesize better ways of communicating.

Target Audience: 13 – 18 years' old

Group Size: maximum 24

Career Talks

IPIC's researchers have come from various backgrounds, countries and cultures to conduct ground-breaking research in Cork. Their career paths are complex and insightful. Career talks given by IPIC's researchers are aimed to provide information of the skills required to become a researcher at IPIC, which don't always follow the 'normal' career paths. Talks can be catered to different ages, genders etc. depending on the school preferences.

Target Audience: 13 – 18 years' old

Group Size: no maximum