

Robots, Clones and Frankensteins



Dialogues in Science

Outreach events for KS 3, 4 and 5

Dialogues in science is an interactive workshop that uses critical thinking, concept analysis and group discussion to explore social and ethical issues in science.

This approach is focussed on developing a conceptual understanding of issues – examining the advantages, disadvantages and implications of different technologies and research areas.

The workshops use practical dialogue to explore ideas in a collaborative setting where they can be shared, compared and extended. Together with team activities, thought experiments, and mental games these workshops engage curiosity and are a challenging day of enjoyable thinking.

Outcomes include:

- Broader understanding of concepts
- Critical thinking and concept analysis
- Creative and reflective thinking
- Speaking, listening and questioning
- Participation and respect for other opinions
- Teamwork and collaboration

Science areas covered include:

- Nuclear energy
- Genetically modified food
- Stem cell research
- Autonomous machines and artificial intelligence
- Animal experimentation

'How science works' curriculum – key concepts covered:

- Applications and implications of science
- Data, evidence, theories and explanations
- Communication skills
- Collaboration
- Successful learning
- Responsible citizenship

These workshops also have extensive links to the PLTS framework.

Workshop details:

Participants: KS 3, 4 or 5

Numbers: Up to 24 students

Time: Full day or half day workshops available

Location: Classroom, workroom or hall

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Metathink is an independent provider of philosophy, dialogue and thinking skills events to schools, universities, local authorities and public bodies. We also provide professional development training in dialogue facilitation.