



FACT SHEET

science.09

Organised by the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) and Science Centre Singapore, science.09 is the Republic's largest annual science festival. With 147 events spread over one and a half months, science.09 promotes scientific exploration, technical exploration and biomedical awareness. Through collaborations with partner organizations, activities and programmes are designed targeted at professionals, students and the general public. This year, the unifying theme for science.09 - "Ask Why" - is aimed at encouraging people from all walks of life to rediscover their natural curiosity about the world around them by asking why – a simple question that is at the heart of science.

Official mascot – Professor Why

As a scientist, Professor Why personifies the science.09 theme. Armed with his magnifying glass and notebook, he seeks to gain knowledge by asking questions about everything around him – from the very small to the very big. His quirky, friendly appearance depicts how modern science is not a series of dry and dusty subjects but an exciting, fun and engaging process of discovery through experimentation and collaboration across a variety of science disciplines.

science.09 Event Highlights

Event Title	Date	Synopsis
X-periment!	14 -16 Aug 2009	Come and join in the excitement at the launch event X-periment! at Marina Square. For the first time in Singapore, audiences will be treated to TV's most extreme educational scientist, Dr Bunhead, from the UK. Experience his spectacular and explosive science show - Crash Test Science! Witness some of his most outrageous science experiments - the Fire Tornado, Flaming Trump Tube, Glo-stick Rollercoaster, and many other stunning activities that make science fun for the whole family. Be awed by cool science demonstrations and have fun with hands-on experiments for kids and families at over 18 booths managed by outstanding research and tertiary institutions. It's a science carnival for all!
The National Science Challenge 2009	18 August – 29 September	Watch the sixth season of the National Science Challenge! Hosted by Stephanie Carrington, this half-hour television game show merges both outdoor and indoor science challenges as Singapore's brightest young minds put their skills and knowledge to the test. Tune in to Channel 5 each week to watch 12 secondary school teams progress from the audition rounds to the grand finals through 7 episodes. You can win great prizes in the Home-viewers Contest too. Who will emerge as the Grand Champions?
Sci-fi Movie Festival and Forums	02 – 04 Sep 2009	The Singapore Sci-fi Movie Festival is back with a great selection of science fiction movies. Enjoy exciting science-fiction blockbusters such as the "Incredible Hulk", "Iron Man" and "The Day the Earth Stood Still". After the movie screenings, participants can share their questions about the science behind the films in a Q&A session with a panel of scientists.
National Junior Robotics Competition (NJRC)	07-12 Sep 2009	The National Junior Robotics Competition (NJRC) is an exciting and unique event organised annually by Science Centre Singapore and the Agency for Science Technology and Research (A*STAR). This robotics competition encourages students to develop problem solving skills, entrepreneurial skills, creative thinking skills and team spirit among the participants. Over the past 10 years, more than 30,000 participants and 200,000 supporters have gathered for this premier robotics competition which celebrates fun and interactive learning.
Science in the Gardens	12 Sep 2009	It's fun for the whole family in the gardens! Make your very own windsock or create a chromatography butterfly, and go on an exploration trail through the gardens to discover unique plant life. And don't miss entertainer Jay and his "J-show" as he demonstrates the exciting, intricate science of juggling.
Kids Science Fest!	15-20 Sep 2009	Do not miss this fun science carnival at the Science Centre! Through plenty of multi-disciplinary science activities, it is a chance for the whole family to "Ask Why", and learn more about the world around us and be inspired to learn more about the wonders of science. Expect exciting science shows from SciTech Australia too.

For more information, please visit the science.09 official site at www.sciencemonth.org.sg

About Science Centre Singapore

The Science Centre Singapore is a non-formal educational institution dedicated to the promotion of science and technology among students and members of the public. As a leading Science Centre in the region, the Science Centre Singapore has twelve exhibition galleries with more than 1,000 exhibits, and another 18,000 sq metres of outdoor space showcasing the Waterworks, Ecogarden and the Kinetic Garden exhibits. The Centre also houses the Omni-Theatre — Singapore's only dome-shaped, 5-storey high theatre with a capacity of 276 seats. The Science Centre received 1.049 million visitors, while Omni-Theatre and Snow City received 400,000 visitors for FY2008/2009. For more information, please visit www.science.edu.sg

About the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR)

A*STAR is Singapore's lead agency for fostering world-class scientific research and talent for a vibrant knowledge-based Singapore. A*STAR actively nurtures public sector research and development in Biomedical Sciences, Physical Sciences and Engineering, with a particular focus on fields essential to Singapore's manufacturing industry and new growth industries. It oversees 19 research institutes and consortia and supports extramural research with the universities, hospital research centres and other local and international partners. At the heart of this knowledge intensive work is human capital. Top local and international scientific talent drive knowledge creation at A*STAR research institutes. The Agency also sends scholars for undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral training in the best universities, a reflection of the high priority A*STAR places on nurturing the next generation of scientific talent. For more information about A*STAR, please visit www.a-star.edu.sg.

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