

STEMM Mid-Year Conference 2017

On 26th January we attended a mid-year conference as part of our STEMM project in the Johns Innes Centre, Norwich. We have been inspired and gained further knowledge about the science based around Botany and Zoology. Once we arrived at the venue there were many other schools participating in this STEMM event. There were a variety of several exhibitions on the study of fauna and flora such as carnivorous plants e.g. the Venus fly traps and how they adapt to the environment. The most interesting exhibition was about how logic gates can be used to represent the growth of bacteria and how bacteria are able to reproduce and spread across a plant specimen.

While we were visiting the various exhibitions, we were fascinated by the different studies based on plants, animals and bacteria. For example, there was an exhibition regarding how petals take their specific shape and why individual flower petals and leaves have different shapes. They conducted research on the petals shape and discovered that a gene called Jagged controls the growth of petals

Furthermore, we are more inspired to pursue a career in science due to the main part of the event which was a conference where 3 guest speakers spoke about how they have achieved their career in science and what inspired them to take it on as well as the qualifications and requirements needed to reach their career. From this event, we have learnt that motivation, determination and hard work are the only factors required to achieve your personal goals.

By Sara Kadhm, Roshin Roy & Jenisa Jose



1: Roshin experimenting how bacteria spreads through plant leaves by injecting fluids.



2: Sara Observing the bacteria found on plants through a light telescope