



Organised by Science on Stage Belgium:

# The festival PLAYFUL SCIENCE 7, European School Brussels 1, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2013

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Report of an activity organised by Science on Stage Belgium:

Our annual festival , PLAYFUL SCIENCE, was held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March, at the European School Brussels 1. The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of PLAYFUL SCIENCE was a real success. More than 200 teachers from all over Belgium have participated (Flemish part as well as French part). The festival is unique in Belgium for teachers who want to discover experiments which challenge and make pupils think about science. We had invited Ondrej Pavelka and Jan Pribyla, the two Czech colleagues who won the prize of EIROforum at the European festival Science on Stage Europe in Copenhagen in 2011. We had also invited David Featonby and his wife. Their presentation, "What happens next ", with lots of surprising experiments is a real example of inquiry learning and has been most appreciated by the audience.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FESTIVAL

### The fair

More than thirty stands held by science teachers from all over Belgium + David and Anne Featonby from Great Britain, Ondrej Pribyla and Jan Pavelka from the Czech Republic + the whole Belgian delegation for the coming European festival in Slubice have provided all the information on the procedures and precautions to take for original experiments. Textbook authors also have presented their works during the fair.

### The quiz

Science teachers have had to predict the result of 6 experiments presented on stage. The quiz organized by Science on Stage Belgium for science teachers always wins a huge success. Eight teachers have succeeded a 6/6 without any fault !

[www.scienceonstage.be](http://www.scienceonstage.be) [info@scienceonstage.be](mailto:info@scienceonstage.be)

Science on Stage Belgium had prepared some great prizes: 1st prize: the calculator TIInspire!  
Congratulations to the winners of the quiz!

### The final show

Ingrid Daubechies, Professor at the Princeton University and at the VUB, Brussels and Michel Rigo, Professor at the ULg, Liège, have presented together “Mathemagical Show” a series of spectacular magic tricks which has impressed the audience. Every time the mathematical aspect has been discovered and well introduced.

Ingrid Daubechies is teaching in a Flemish University and Michel Rigo in a French one. This was the first time that they had a presentation together: a “Premiere” with a “symbolic aspect” which has been well appreciated.

### The distribution of the experiments’ kit

By late afternoon, each teacher received a large bag containing the necessary equipment to carry out simple experiments: a laser pointer, 405 nm, a diffraction grating, , strontium chloride, transparent balloons and frigolite balls together with the description of the experiments: observation of fluorescence, diffraction with the violet laser compared with the red laser, observation of different spectra emitted by different elements,...

These experiments were presented on stage. All detailed explanations to help achieve these experiments are also on the website [www.scienceonstage.be](http://www.scienceonstage.be).

## CONCLUSION

With so many demonstrations, there were ideas for everyone to bring back in his school. The enthusiasm and dynamism of the colleagues and the comments and congratulations we’ve received is a great reward for us.

Certainly the event was very successful and met our objectives: create contacts between teachers to promote exchanges of ideas and contribute to improving the quality of science education in Belgium.

Arlette Dambremez

President  
Science on Stage Belgium



Opening of the festival PLAYFUL SCIENCE 7  
The word of the Director of the European School Brussels 1: Antonia Ruiz- Esturla



Ondrej Pribyla and Jan Pavelka



Astrid Delpature and hibault Huyge secondary school Ernest Solvay- Charleroi : "lightning"

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David Featonby: "What Happens next"



Patrick Walravens: the Quiz

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The Experilab





## THE FAIR





The prizes for the laureates of the quiz



The show "Mathemagical"

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At the end of the event : distribution of the experiments' kits to each participant

