

MAKERSHACK

A vibrant, hands-on space designed to showcase engineering to a broad audience in a fun & interactive way.

In 2017 we turned our public interactive space at the Cheltenham Science Festival into the 'MakerShack'.

This space had to be able to engage young children, school groups, families and adults – sometimes all at once – over the course of the entire festival. We wanted our attendees to leave feeling inspired about engineering.

The 2017 MakerShack welcomed over 9,000 visitors over the course of six days, of which 3,946 were school children.



Huge numbers of school children enjoyed the MakerShack in 2017



The 2017 exterior of the MakerShack at Cheltenham Science Festival

The MakerShack was made up of multiple stations inside, these included:

- Laser Cutting
- Robot Programming
- 3D printing
- Paper Aeroplanes
- Microbit Coding
- Comet Making
- Pottery Making
- Earthquake Proofing
- Torch Making
- Cornflour
- Willow Weaving
- Car Racing
- Stent Jewellery
- Cardboard Builders

All of the station facilitators received training on audience engagement skills.

"This is fantastic! Seeing pure joy on my pupil's faces was fabulous. Thank you!"

Linda Bradshaw, Teacher at Naunton Park Primary

"Tonight I've tried coding, construction, and I've played with robots. I've never seen anything else like this for adults, it's so much fun!"

Adult attendee at the MakerShack Lates



The space also catered to adult visitors throughout the week

We collected feedback from our attendees about their visits:

- 97% of attendees would recommend the MakerShack to their friends
- 90% of attendees felt more aware of how creative engineering could be
- 88% of attendees felt newly inspired to make things in the future
- 87% of attendees gained a new appreciation for how engineering improves our lives
- 55% of attendees were female
- 48% of attendees were 31-45 years old
- 11% of attendees were 18-30 years old



Our late evening opening was very popular with the after work crowd

"Brilliant, can't get the kids out!!" weekend family attendee



Young & old enjoyed getting hands on (and messy!) in the MakerShack

The MakerShack was a buzzing vibrant space in 2017 and we are already working toward another outstanding MakerShack in 2018.