



Q Lab

Questacon's *Q Lab* gallery is a dynamic and experimental environment that allows visitors to ask questions and find their own answers, and to engage with scientific content in an open-ended and curiosity-driven manner. In essence, *Q Lab* gives visitors a taste of what it's like to think like a scientist.

Q Lab is a unique space which presents a constantly changing array of demonstrations, hands-on activities and exhibits, and multimedia content.

Visitors can also learn about the science behind major news stories, such as natural disasters or the latest scientific discoveries. *Q Lab*'s Science News, researched and printed daily, is a great source of interest for visitors, with Questacon science communicators and volunteers on hand for further discussion or explanations.

Q Lab also offers a regular program of demonstrations, hands-on experiments and activities for visitors, often themed around current events. Examples of *Q Lab* activities have included heart dissections on Valentine's Day, activities to celebrate the UN International Year of Crystallography in 2014, plus annual, themed activities for Easter and Pi Day, amongst others.

Scientific organisations and scientists often bring their knowledge and equipment from the field or the laboratory to *Q Lab*. The flexibility of the exhibition space provides an opportunity for them to share their work with Questacon visitors through displays and activities.

Past exhibitors and presenters include the Murray–Darling Basin Authority, who conducted fish dissections with visitors for World Water Day; and ACT Heritage, who displayed Aboriginal artefacts and presented on their use during the Canberra and Region Heritage Festival. Geoscience Australia has also exhibited geological artefacts during 'Rock-tober' activities coinciding with Earth Sciences Week.

Permanent exhibits in *Q Lab* include digital microscopes which allow visitors to magnify objects of their own choice and experience the wonders of our world at a different scale.

Visitors can also watch everyday phenomenon unfold with high definition, slow-motion footage that can be controlled with a simple twist of the wrist, with the Spin Browser.

Other screen displays within *Q Lab* showcase artefacts and images of scientific research, ranging from microscopy through to feats of engineering as well as content from Questacon's own digital studio.

Q Lab is a permanent exhibition at Questacon, and is best suited to those aged 7 years and up.

King Edward Terrace Canberra
02 6270 2800
www.questacon.edu.au

Media enquiries:
0439 399 912
media@questacon.edu.au



Australian Government
Department of Industry

Questacon

The National Science and Technology Centre