

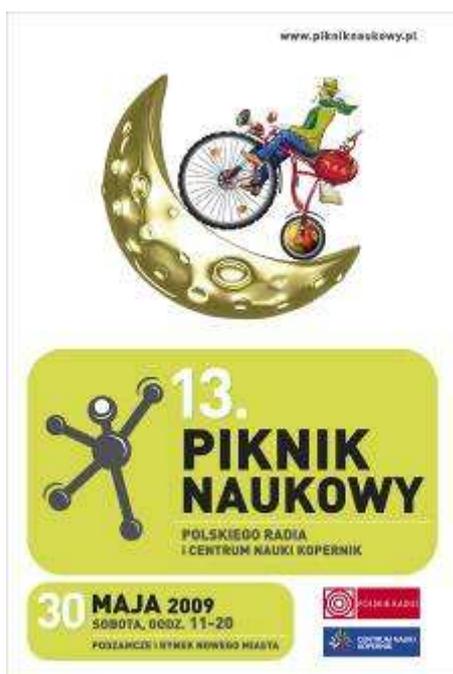


Warsaw, April 2009.

Press release

13TH SCIENCE PICNIC OF POLISH RADIO AND THE COPERNICUS SCIENCE CENTRE - VENUE WARSAW 30 MAY

How to examine the texture of moon surface? Can a person create an own cloud? What do you need to make a boomerang? What is vacuum? These and other questions will be answered during the 13th Science Picnic of Polish Radio and the Copernicus Science Centre.



The Europe's largest outdoor science-popularization event will be held on **30 May 2009** between **11.00 a.m.-08.00 p.m.** in **Warsaw's New Town Square and Podzamcze Areas**. Each year, during one day, **120 thousand people** visit the event. The organizers expect a similar number of visitors this year.

In reference to the fact that the UN has declared 2009 **the International Year of Astronomy**, the theme of the Science Picnic in 2009 will be: "**Science Among the Stars**". That is why there will be plenty of demonstrations and experiments related to astronomy.

This year's guests of **Science Picnic** will enjoy plenty of attractions. They will have a chance to see amazing inventions, fascinating experiments, latest science achievements and about **1000 fantastic demonstrations and presentations** from all over the world, **bringing the scientific issues closer in an interesting and interactive way**.

In **225 tents, 250 institutions from 21 countries** will be presented, including Poland, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Mexico, Germany, Portugal, Slovakia, Switzerland, Sweden, Hungary, Italy and United Kingdom. For the first time, Austria, Cyprus, Spain, Japan and Russia will participate in the **Science Picnic**, and this year's **special guest** will be **Czech Republic**. The area of the tent town will take up **40 000**

m². The most spectacular demonstrations will be performed on the main **stage** on New Town Square.

Division into special **theme sectors** will allow easy finding of an interesting topic. Next to **Technical University Town, Archaeological Village** and **European Village**, a novelty will be **Cosmic Avenue, Atomic Street, Biological and Medical Pavilion, Machines Avenue, Museums Avenue** and **Experiments Avenue**.

In the **Technical University Town** we will find out how to use photovoltaics (converting sun energy into electricity) in household devices e.g. radio or a ventilator. An attraction will be non-pilot aircrafts, levitating magnetic rail and a Droplet vehicle which has driven 409 kilometres on one litre of fuel.

In **Archaeological Village** we will find out how ancient people imagined the universe and learn the names of days of the week in time when there was no Monday. We will try on a Roman outfit as well as a diver's suit and see how to explore underwater archaeological station.

The **European Village** will gather foreign guests of the Picnic; a novelty will be the European Union area. Here, we will see how to build a durable bridge from boxes, calculate how much we would weigh on other planets, we will go for a virtual journey around the universe and see a hybrid car "Hydrogen 7".

In **Cosmic Avenue** we will see meteorites from a close up by telescopes and lunettes and we will observe the Sun and other stars, we will follow the first walk on the Moon of Apollo 11 crew and we will be cheering in a race of robots.

At the **Atomic Street** we will find out what cosmic radiation is and how it affects our planet. We will see Martian vehicles and a student satellite PW SAT, we will try to produce current from a potato. We will have a chance to see a design of a nuclear power plant to be built in Poland.

In **Biological and Medical Pavilion** we will find out why some bacteria glow, we will see carnivorous plants, work out optical illusions and see a green fluorescent protein (GFP) the discoverers of which received the Noble price last year.

In the **Machines Avenue** we will become convinced that a child can lift a car engine, we will control robots, measure distance by means of ultrasounds and discover the secrets of creating computer games.

In **Museums Avenue** we will make measurements by means of tool made in accordance with the description of Mikołaj Kopernik, we will measure time using a solar clock, and we will pilot a sports plane RWD-9 flying over the broadcasted landscape of Warsaw on a computer screen.

Experiments Avenue will attract the visitors by, among others, a chemical volcano popular at each Science Picnic. We will have a chance to see colourful chemical waves, take a photo with a camera without lens and find out why does a plane fly.

13. The Science Picnic means also learning through play for **the youngest**. Especially for them we have prepared, among others, workshops in ice sculpting, miniexcavations, learning to walk on children stilts, contests with prizes, games and plays. Children will have a chance to see how their voice changes after helium, sit in a paraglider and eat a cake cooled with liquid nitrogen.

The most interesting demonstrations will be streamed on our Website: www.pikniknaukowy.pl during the **Picnic**. The event will be broadcasted by **Polskie Radio Euro** (on the air and streamed on www.polskieradioeuro.pl), and **radio Jedyńska, Dwójka and Trójka** will broadcast coverages from the Picnic.

We invite you on Saturday 30 May between 11.00 a.m. - 8 p.m. to Warsaw's New Town Square and Podzamcze Areas. Entrance free.

Science Picnic of Polish Radio and the Copernicus Science Centre is Europe's largest outdoor science event. The purpose of the Picnic is to popularize knowledge from different areas of science by interesting experiments, both simple, related to archaeology or low temperature physics and the latest achievements of modern scholars.

The Science Picnic arouse interest of the European Union, it was **awarded** by the **European Committee** as a model European project within the area of **“Science and society”**.

For further information please contact:

Anita Celarska

Tel.: (22) 645 51 29, 0 508 011 369

e-mail: anita.celarska@polskieradio.pl

www.pikniknaukowy.pl