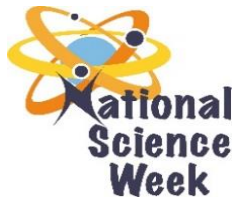


**NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK
DELTA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE MEDIA RELEASE NSW
(30 JULY – 03 AUGUST 2018)**



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SAASTA
South African Agency for Science
and Technology Advancement

It is time for National Science Week 2018 and the Delta Environmental Centre will again offer a programme for learners designed to create more interest in science and showcase local innovations in science and technology, with the theme of “Deepening our democracy through science” for this year of 2018. With its focus on research, development and innovation, the national programme wants to make the sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics and innovation more appealing to learners to ensure that they include these in their career options. It is also aimed at introducing them to science so that they can contribute to society as informed and critically engaged citizens. “The National Research Foundation (NRF) has again chosen us as an implementer during its National Science Week from 30 July to 3 August 2018. This will give us the opportunity to get parents, teachers, educators, learners and the private sector to consider the importance of science and education in our lives,” says **Malusi Vatsha**,



[Chief Executive of the Centre](#). He says reports often indicate that thousands of children leave during their primary school years in South Africa and he therefore wants to challenge people to consider how they can ensure a more positive experience for children in school. “This is aligned with our theme to deepening our democracy through science.” The centre has partnered with Thembile Primary School in Kagiso on the West Rand to participate in the National Science Week and will offer educational programmes for the learners, educators, parents and members of the local community. “We will focus on exploring biodiversity for learners in grades 4 to 7, where the learners and educators can participate in hands-on, practical and interactive activities with our qualified education officers to create awareness of the contribution of the sciences to sustainable development and improved quality of life, including the protection of the South African biodiversity heritage, energy and water,” says **Mr Vatsha**. The existing exhibits at the centre, which consist of the Natural Sciences Museum, Biodiversity Room, Water Room and Energy Room, will be used to enhance the activities of the programme, as well as Delta Park as an outside classroom to offer practical and real-life examples. On the Friday 3 August the centre will present a programme at the school where parents and community members as well as learners can learn more about how the sciences can contribute to a better life for all.



For News editors: [Delta Environmental Centre \(DEC\)](#) is a private, independent non-profit company that aims to enable people to improve the quality of the environment by promoting the management and sustainable use of all resources in line with the South African Constitution through innovative [environmental education](#) and [training programmes](#) and consultation. National Science Week is an initiative of the Department of Science and Technology, held annually since 2000. It is a countrywide celebration of the sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics and innovation and involves various stakeholders and role players at multiple sites in all nine provinces. The Department of Science and Technology appointed the [National Research Foundation](#) as the implementing agency to coordinate and manage activities during National Science Week.



Welcoming and Introduction – Learners were guided to the Function Room (Hall) where the purpose/theme of National Science Week was outlined to them and Programme Activities of the day.

Programme Activities – Activities include the Exhibition at the Museum, Randwater Room, Energy Room, Biodiversity Room and including Field Excursion at Delta Park. Lesson Activities include Living and Non-Living things, Food Chain, Biodiversity and Conservation.

“Thank you for your support and contributions to this year of 2018 National Science Week”