

STFC Public Engagement: Wonder initiative

What is the Wonder initiative?



Wonder works with people from the **40% most socio-economically deprived areas of the UK** in particular 8 to 14-year-olds and their families and carers



Wonder is made up of **32 grant projects and 2 strategic partnership projects** plus National Labs public engagement delivery

What did Wonder Phase 1 (2018–2021) achieve?



Total yearly participation fell from **595,000 to 377,000**



but the proportion of Wonder reach increased from **32% to 46%**



The reach with 8–14 year olds increased from **32,000 (5%) to 44,000 (12%)**

Outcomes for Wonder groups were positive and similar to non-Wonder groups– they felt



welcomed, inspired and enjoyed their experiences

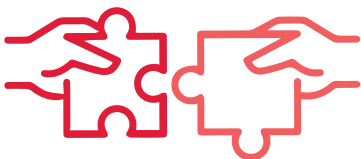
The public engagement community



welcomed this clear focus on Wonder communities

and references to working with them in grant applications have increased

What did we learn about working with Wonder communities?



Successful partnerships and projects **take time and resources** to develop



Community partnerships, where **power is shared equitably** are key



It requires **openness and flexibility, a willingness to listen and the ability to adapt**