

# Science by Doing

## The future is looking good

With funding from the government, the future of *Science by Doing* is looking good. The goal of *Science by Doing* is to improve science learning for year 7 to 10 students by engaging them with science using an inquiry-based approach. This is done by supporting the professional learning of school-based science teaching teams with curriculum and professional learning resources. The basis for these award winning resources was established in stage one, and now with further funding will be extended in stages two and three.

### Stage One 2009–11

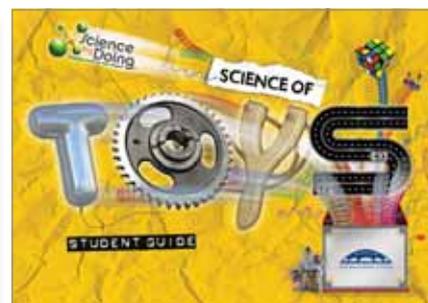
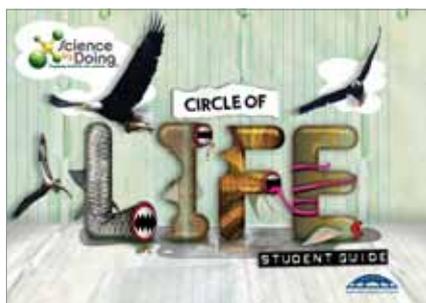
Developed professional learning approach, five professional learning modules and initial curriculum resources.

### Stage Two 2012–13

Developing seven new curriculum units and transporting the existing curriculum resources for online delivery so that all schools can freely access them.

### Stage Three 2013–16

Complete final eight curriculum units plus new professional learning modules for online delivery. *Science by Doing* will be implemented through partnerships with states and territories.



year 7	The circle of life	Enough water fit for drinking	The science of toys	Earth and space
year 8	From little things big things grow	Rock, paper, scissors	Energy	Rock your world
year 9	Ecosystems and change	Chemical reactions	Light, sound, action	Plate tectonics
year 10	Evolution and heredity	Chemical patterns	Motion and energy transfer	Systems on the big scale

■ stage one (completed) ■ stage two ■ stage three

In all, we will create 16 curriculum units for years 7 to 10 (see table). The student and teacher guides for these units will be freely available through the Academy website.

During the first two terms of 2013 the new curriculum units will be trialled in selected Australian schools, to field

test the quality of the units and the functionality of online delivery. After this the units will be revised, with the expectation that the units will be available to schools from July 2013 through the Academy website, as open source resources. ▲

## Journey out and about in the Universe



Richard de Grijns with Michael Dopita and audience members at the Shine Dome

A packed Shine Dome audience took a journey through the immensity of the Universe with Professor Richard de Grijns from Peking University, the Academy's 2012 Selby Fellow. Professor de Grijns used recent images, animations and results, informed by his own research to traverse through the cosmos, starting from planet Earth to the nearest stars, our Milky Way galaxy, and beyond to the edge of the observable Universe in just 26 steps. Professor de Grijns delivered lectures in most capital cities in Australia as part of the Selby tour. The Selby Fellowship is financed through the generosity of the trustees of the Selby Scientific Foundation.

His presentation at the Shine Dome can be viewed at [www.science.org.au/events/lectures-and-speeches/deGrijns.html](http://www.science.org.au/events/lectures-and-speeches/deGrijns.html). ▲