

# Chemistry busking at King's Cross

**Member volunteers brightened the day for travellers in London, bringing the chemistry of glow-sticks to one of the UK's busiest stations**

By [your name]

Our education coordinators for South East England brought a different kind of busking to King's Cross station in London, celebrating this year's Chemistry Week. Supported by a number of our member volunteers, the team set up a stall on the station's main concourse from 7am to 7pm. Members of the public passing through could try some quick and simple activities on the chemistry of glow-sticks and UV beads.

Katie Nuttall – our education coordinator based at the University of Reading – was one of the organisers of the day. She said: "I think it's the best event I've ever been involved in. Our 15 volunteer members were fantastic – they were so enthusiastic and engaging in speaking to over 1,000 people in the day – and they really enjoyed it too.

"The best thing about it was that we were speaking to a lot of people who weren't or aren't engaged in science. I felt that we could target anyone, not just from a science background.

"We used glow-sticks as a hook to talk to people and give a snippet about chemistry. I spoke to one woman about the chemistry of ultra violet beads, and she said: 'Every time I look at that bead I'm going to think about the chemistry behind it'. That is exactly what we want."

The glow-sticks proved a real hit: young children were particularly excited by the colourful chemistry and many adults took sticks home to talk about the science behind them with their own children.

Bob Worley, education advisor for CLEAPSS in the UK, was one of the volunteers on the day and said, "Anything that interests people and catches their imagination is well worthwhile. It's been an interesting day watching people's reactions and their surprise when the glow-sticks come to life."

Benita Hiley, another volunteer, thanked our education coordinators for the opportunity to take part and added "It was a most uplifting experience, the time just flew by. The best bit was seeing my enthusiasm mirrored on the faces of the public as we discussed why glow-sticks glow."

Snappy title

A standfirst, below the title, summarises the story in an eye-catching way

The first paragraph should include the main points that you wish to cover.

What? When? Who? Why?

Include quotes from people involved if possible. Try asking "What did you enjoy the most?" "Why is this sort of activity so important?"

Bring in more detail further down the article.

Try to finish with a summary of the impact of the event. You might like to include what you are looking forward to in the future. This can also be a good place for an uplifting

Thanks: If you need to thank lots of people by name, do it at the end, rather than in the main body text.

Further information/Call to Action: Use the final paragraph – if appropriate – to let people know how they can get involved in this sort of activity in the future.