



Guidelines for designing activities celebrating National Science Week 2024

The following are suggestions to inform the activities that can be planned for National Science Week. There will be a focus on one theme per day, but organisations and individuals are not required to adhere to the daily topics or the order of activities. Daily participation is encouraged, but being involved, even just once, is the most important.

Days	Topics or Focus Areas	Activity Overview
One (30 Sept.)	Technology literacy	Technology is a very popular term, but do we truly understand what it entails? Let's break down this term so that it's easily understood by everyone.
Two (1 Oct.)	Understanding local and global societal dependency on technology	According to research, people around the world are becoming overly dependent on technology. Is this true, and what are the indicators that this is the case? Let's consider the situation from both a domestic and international standpoint to help clarify the issue.
Three (2 Oct.)	Examining societal benefits and drawbacks of technology	Because of their advantages, we have a solid and expanding bond with technology. In addition to examining the positive effects of technology on society, let's consider the potential negative effects it may have on us by examining concerning social issues fueled by technology.

Four (3 Oct.)	Unpacking the concept of disruptive technology	What exactly is disruptive technology, and how does it qualify as such? Let's explore this technology in the economy and in our own lives, and further attempt to predict the future in this regard.
Five (4 Oct.)	Discipline and order on technology access and use	Globally, governments enact laws and even set up organisations to control access and use of particular technologies. We examine a few widely used technologies in South Africa, the laws governing them and the organisations or bodies in charge of monitoring them.
Six (5 Oct.)	Local and worldwide technological developments	Given our growing reliance on technology, we will explore the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How South Africa stacks up in terms of technology adoption across important economic and service delivery sectors. • Domestically produced technologies that took the world by storm, or technologies in which South Africa can be regarded as a leader. • Outstanding technological advancements and high-tech initiatives that the South African government has spearheaded, funded, or both. • Government policy instruments to enable technological innovation. • A glimpse into the future by predicting 10 technologies to be the next big thing within the next decade.
Seven (6 Oct.)	Now that we are aware of the truth about technology and society, should we be concerned?	After six days of discussing and introducing citizens to a range of technology-related issues, it's time to address the pressing question of whether or not we should be concerned about the growing global reliance on technology.