



ACTUALLY, IT'S

PHYTO-PLANKTON!



national science week 2021

Media Release

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QUEST UNDERSEA WITH SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATION

Australians will be drawn in by the wonders of our oceans for National Science Week as hosts of the science podcast *Actually, it's Phytoplankton!* Dr Jamie Coull & Dr Lachlan McKinna present *Illustrating the Microscopic World: A fully online scientific illustration workshop* with undersea artist Kirsten Carlson of Fathom iT Studios. We will quest to the undersea world to learn scientific illustration techniques and practices to foster a life-long love of nature and curiosity.

Phytoplankton are Earth's climate super-heroes. They are responsible for the oxygen we breath in every second breath, they regulate our climate, and they are primary producers at the bottom of the marine food web. Without them, we'd be cooked!

50 people from all around Australia have been sent the necessary art materials free-of-charge and will learn to draw phytoplankton using white pencil on black paper in the style of Ernst Haeckel as part of this free National Science Week event. Many more people are joining from around the world with the BYO art materials option.

This event is presented by Go2Qurious (education brand of Go2Q Remote Sensing), in collaboration with Fathom iT Studios (Germany) and supported by a National Science Week Grant from the Australian Commonwealth Government.

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions in South-East Queensland, this workshop will be presented fully online with virtual participation. <https://www.go2qurious.com/events>

National Science Week is Australia's annual opportunity to meet scientists, discuss the hot topics, do science and celebrate its cultural and economic impact on society.

In 2021, National Science Week events will be held online and right throughout Australia with everything including science festivals, music and comedy shows, expert panel discussions, interactive displays, open days and online activities.

The festival is proudly supported by the Australian Government; partners CSIRO, the Australian Science Teachers Association and the ABC; and media sponsor *Cosmos*.

National Science Week 2021 will run from 14-22 August. Event details can be found at www.scienceweek.net.au

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