

Chemistry Kids

Robert Winston:

Actually making an explosion in the laboratory is one of the most exciting things you can do as a child.

Diane Kepley:

Lord Winston's students appear to agree. London's Imperial College usually only opens its doors to the most able and creative scientific brains, but this is different. These kids are getting a glimpse of life in a laboratory and learning how much fun science can be.

Robert Winston:

If we show that a campus like this is not an arcane, dark, mysterious, elite place, but actually as a seven- or eight-year-old, you can walk into it and suddenly think, "Hey, I could come here...."

Diane Kepley:

The school isn't trying to convert kids into future professors, but it is attempting to give them a better understanding of how the physical world works. Showing how a balloon submerged in liquid nitrogen can expand on its own is just one example. Hands-on lessons in robotics are another.

Student:

Today, I feel we've learned definitely how to use a robot and use the codes to program it to go in different ways. And hopefully, this afternoon our competition will go well, and we'll learn how to do all different tricks.

Diane Kepley:

Imperial College is one of several universities across the globe taking part in the Reach Out Laboratory program, and the program's creators hope it will expand to others.

Diane Kepley:

Diane Kepley, The Associated Press.

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