



## **The Big Watermelon Experiment: Physics, Forces and Flying Fruit**

### **What is it?**

The Big Watermelon Experiment is a science experiment for school students, where they test how many rubber bands are required before a watermelon implodes.

Experimentary is coordinating this experiment at a national level, for National Science Week (15-23 August).

### **What does it involve?**

Schools register for free in order to receive learning materials in the lead up to science week (videos and pdf downloads).

Before the experiment, students at each school make predictions on the outcome of the experiment based on scientific principles outlined in the learning material.

During National Science Week, each school conducts the experiment, sharing images and results on a national scale to compare data.

More details: <http://experimentary.com.au/watermelon/>

### **Why watermelons?**

The watermelon implosion experiment is visually spectacular, giving students an exciting look into the world of science without the need for expensive equipment or complicated processes. For the media, it is an engaging and interesting way to talk about science – everyday objects being used to discuss science concepts (and of course it explodes).

### **Why do this?**

National Science Week is a nationwide initiative focusing on science and technology with over 1,000 events held across schools, museums, universities, libraries etc.

The aim is to engage Australians of all ages in science and science-related activities.

### **What is Experimentary?**

Experimentary is an online science resource for primary school-aged children. Experimentary teaches science through experiments, helping teachers and parents deliver science to their students/children in an interesting and interactive way. In a broader sense, Experimentary is making a valuable contribution to the enhancement of STEM education in Australian schools, assisting teachers in science delivery and fostering a love of science in students.

Experimentary is headed up by Dr Rob Bell, previous host of children's Science show Scope.

### **Media contacts:**

To find out more about The Big Watermelon Experiment contact Dr Rob Bell at Experimentary:

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Images and video resources can be provided to the media on request.

[www.experimentary.com.au](http://www.experimentary.com.au)

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