



MINISTRY OF  
SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY



# Kids enjoy a “Summer of Science” at NIHERST

For the 17th consecutive year, NIHERST’s annual vacation camps have been a hit with children from ages 5 to 17. This year, approximately 1,300 campers signed up with NIHERST to be part of this creative and scientific experience during their holidays. The camps, exploring a range of topics in science, technology and innovation, were conveniently held across the country in Port-of-Spain, San Fernando, D’Abadie, Debe and Preysal. Funology, Explorer, Eureka!, Sci-Spy, Young Inventors and Robomania camps enlightened the youngsters on topics such as gravity, marine biodiversity, microbiology, hydroponics and aquaponics, neuroscience, engineering and robotics. The E-magination and KoduNation camps gave kids the opportunity to delve into computer science, programming and Scratch software. Other camps such as DotCom and GrafX, using the latest software, taught them the basics of website development and graphic design, while our AppBuilders and Gamerz World camps joined the global trend of app development for smart devices.

NIHERST’s camps give children from a very young age the opportunity to learn scientific principles and their application in technology and innovation through hands on activities and interactive exhibits. This approach is designed to develop their creativity and critical thinking skills. Parents and children, some of who are returning participants, were fascinated with the diverse educational content that the camps presented in entertaining and highly interactive ways. These camps are just one of many programmes offered by NIHERST that help to build the scientific, technological capacity of our people.



Another NIHERST project, INVOCAB (Improving Innovation Capacities in the Caribbean), hosted a camp for 48 kids, ages 9-12 and their teachers from four primary schools from East Trinidad. After a series of training sessions conducted by NIHERST with the teachers, a one-week camp was held, giving the participants a chance to engage in hands on applications of science and mathematics to improve performance and change their attitudes towards these two subject areas. INVOCAB, seeks to improve the levels of innovation in the Caribbean by building and strengthening capacity in science, technology and innovation. The camp, as a part of this programme, created a stimulating and enjoyable interactive environment which benefitted both the teachers and students.