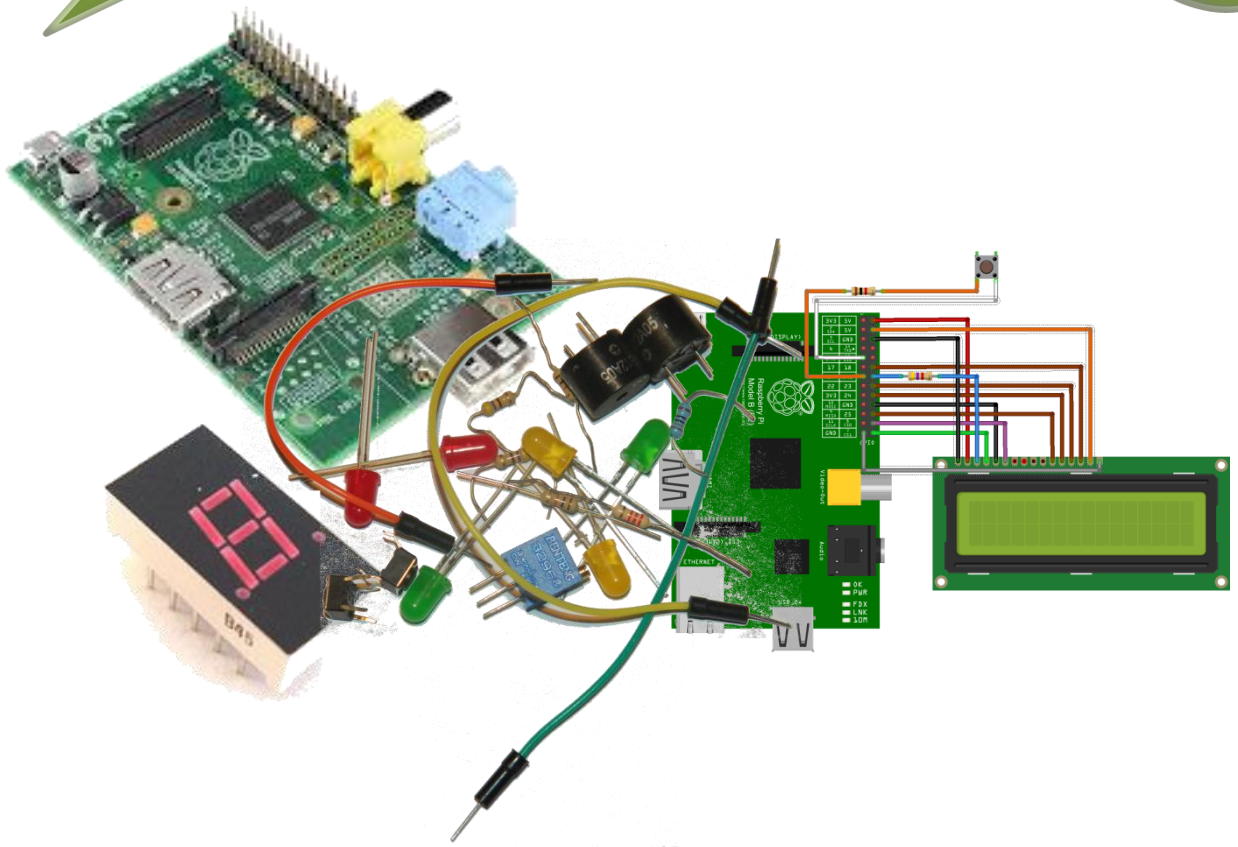
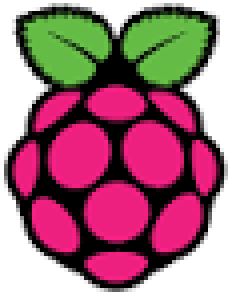
BODGERS





RaspberryPi

fritzing

The **Raspberry Pi** is a series of credit card-sized single-board computers developed by the Raspberry Pi Foundation to promote the teaching of basic computer science.

- Access to loads of technology due to Linux operating system
- Easy to build hardware/physical computing projects due to GPIO pins
- Breakable if you mess up the software you just format the SD card and start again. If you damage the Raspberry Pi itself it only costs around €35 to replace

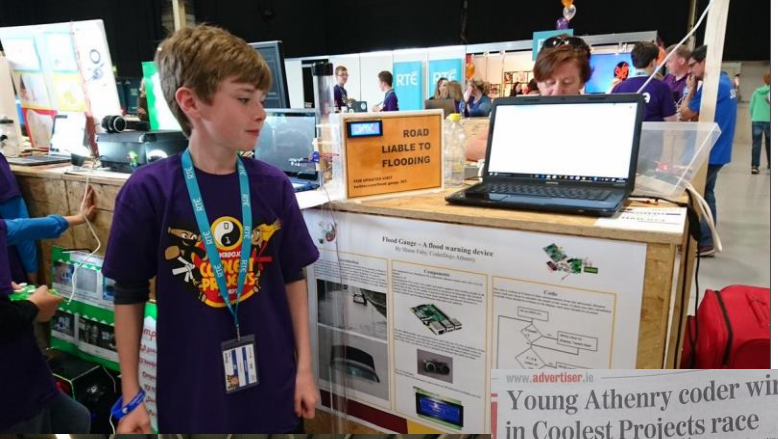
CoderDojo Athenry

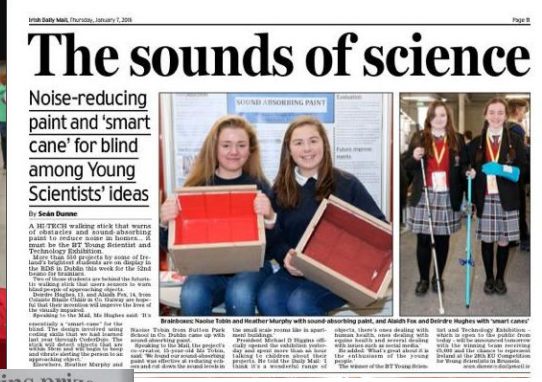
Bodgers

An important part of what we do in our group is the project. Belts will be awarded on the project alone.

20 to 30 minutes	Approx. 1 hour	20 to 30 minutes
Introduction of new topics	Ninjas experiment with these new concepts	Project work Planning at first.

we always get caught for time with our projects so hopefully we can get plenty of good ideas for projects and get to work on them early





The sounds of science

Noise-reducing paint and 'smart cane' for blind among Young Scientists' ideas

By Seán Dunne

A HI-TECH walking stick that warns of obstacles and sound-absorbing paint to reduce noise in homes... A host of ideas by budding Scientist and Technology Exhibition.

More than 550 projects by some of Ireland's brightest students are on display in the RDS in Dublin this week for the 52nd BT Young Scientist...

Two of those students are behind the futuristic walking stick that uses sensors to warn blind people of approaching objects.

Deirdre Hughes, 13, and Alaidh Fox, 14, from Mountbellew in Co Galway, have also come up with an idea that invention will improve the lives of the visually impaired.

Speaking to the Mail, Ms Hughes said: 'It's essentially a "smart cane" for the blind. We've been learning about the coding skills that we had learned last year through CoderDojo. The cane has a GPS tracker, a built-in torch, bleep and will begin to beep and vibrate alerting the person to an approaching object.'

Elsewhere, Heather Murphy and Nassim Tobin from Sutton Park School in Co. Dublin came up with sound absorbing paint.

Speaking to the Mail, the project's co-creator, 15-year-old Ms Tobin, said: 'We found that our sound absorbing paint was effective at reducing echo and cut down the sound levels in the small scale rooms like in apartment buildings.'

President Michael D Higgins officially opened the exhibition yesterday and spent more than an hour in the RDS to see the various projects. He told the Daily Mail: 'I think it's a wonderful future of objects, there's ones dealing with human health, ones dealing with equine health and several dealing with issues such as social media.'

He added: 'What's great about it is the enthusiasm of the young people.'

The winner of the BT Young Scientist...

Brainboxes: Nashe Tobin and Heather Murphy with sound absorbing paint, and Alaidh Fox and Deirdre Hughes with 'smart canes'

loads of young people gathered to show off their excellent projects for everyone to see. Philip gave a Pi-based presentation to start the morning, and then it was time to see the displays.

"As we walked around the venue, we grew more and more impressed by the projects on show," Ben mentions in his blog about the event. "We asked each exhibiting group to talk us through their project, and were genuinely

"We arrived at a beautiful Pi-powered retro gaming console and spoke to the maker's dad. He was excited for his son to be able to show his project to people from the Raspberry Pi Foundation, and asked if we could stick around to wait for him to return." Ben requested Mega Drive classic *Golden Axe*, which was quickly loaded up for him to play. On this page are some of the amazing projects that Philip and Ben fou

www.advertiser.ie

Young Athenry coder wins prize in Coolest Projects race

BY DECLAN VARLEY

10-year-old Shane Fahy from Athenry took a winner's prize at the CoderDojo Coolest Projects Awards at the RDS, Dublin last Saturday (June 18).

More than 800 young innovators took part in the awards which attracted 10,000 people to what is the largest technology event held in the country this year.

Shane was placed first in the hardware category for his innovative flood warning system that can automatically alert members of the community and local authorities of rising waters.

"We decided to do this project as Ireland is a flood prone country, and having experienced very bad flooding in the past we wanted to make life simpler and safer for people in very badly affected areas," said Shane.

Other projects that wowed the judges on the day included a mobile flood warning system, a robotic dog feeding app, and a mobile phone for developing countries that doesn't require a network.

"It was fantastic to see 100 entries from outside Ireland at Coolest Projects. We now have 1,020 dojos in 61 countries and reach 35,000 children a week," said Coolest Projects co-founder Noel King.

"Coolest Projects provides the bridge from learning coding skills at local CoderDojos to innovating and creating future employment. We are the piece in the middle which makes the connection.

"These digital skills are vital if Europe is to address the coding skills shortage which has led to 500,000 open job postings across the region in 2016."

This year also saw the introduction of Launch'd – an event over four stages featuring 50 top international speakers as well as 100 of Ireland's top tech start-up companies.

Launch'd is aimed at inspiring and supporting the next generation of technology entrepreneurs and was an essential platform for the Coolest Projects kids, tech professionals and anyone considering a career in coding.

Among the speakers was Seattle-based Dubliner Aidan Hughes – the developer of of the world's most popular calculators, with more than 70 million combined downloads and 11 million monthly users.

Michael Hunger, caretaker of the Neo4j community, talked about how his organisation helped to unravel the Panama Papers.

Coolest Projects is supported by Intel, Microsoft, Aol, Opencl, Bank of Ireland, Fotos, Symantec, Virgin Media, RTE, Deloitte Digital, Salesforce, Dublin City Council and Accenture.

10-year-old Shane Fahy from Athenry pictured with Orla Morris Toolen; Phil Smyth from Swipe TV, and Sarah Sexton from Intel at the CoderDojo Coolest Projects Awards and Launch'd Summit, which were held at the RDS, Dublin

THE IRISH TIMES

Sat, Sep 17, 2016

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BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2016

Science | Thu 7 Jan 2016

SENSOR GUIDE
Alaidh Fox from Galway with the Guide, a sensor
52nd BT Young S
Exhibition in the
Betson/The Irish

CoderDojo Athenry

Bodgers