



**EMBARGOED UNTIL 19 NOVEMBER, 10AM**

## **Science Centre Singapore Flushes the Taboo on Poo with its latest exhibition on Sanitation**

**SINGAPORE, 19 November 2019** – Do you know what your poo is telling you? What colour should it be? What is it made of? What is the importance of sanitation? Find out at Science Centre Singapore's (SCS) latest ***Know Your Poo*** exhibition. Dedicated to uncovering the science behind this essential bodily function, the exhibition seeks to de-stigmatise conversations around poo and provide an understanding about gut health and the importance of sanitation.

Launched in conjunction with World Toilet Day on 19 November, the permanent exhibition is SCS's latest interactive venture pointing the spotlight on the global sanitation crisis. The fact that more than half the global population does not have access to adequate sanitation and nearly 1,000 children die every day due to water and sanitation-related diarrheal diseases tells us the impact of poor sanitation specially affecting developing countries. Just as water is key to survival, toilets are critical to help prevent spread of diseases.

Singapore is known to be a clean and green city where we have the privilege to enjoy comfortable water-flushed toilets. However, not everyone around the world is fortunate enough. *Know Your Poo* aims to bring out the truth behind the global sanitation crisis and urge guests to spare a moment and think about the needs of the unserved.

"Sanitation is probably one of the least talked about sustainable development goals because we are simply too squeamish to talk about pee, poo and loo. It is important to be able to have conversations if we want to do our bit towards raising awareness about this global crisis as half the world is still without toilets. Part of the solution is to break the taboo around poo. Through this fun and quirky exhibition, we hope to do just that," said Associate Professor Lim Tit Meng, Chief Executive of Science Centre Singapore.

Whether they are being flushed through the sewage slide, breezing past the Secret Chamber of Farts or posing on the Instagrammable Royal Throne, guests winding their way through the exhibition will gain an increased appreciation of toilets after discovering the ins and outs of poo.

*Know Your Poo* has been curated in collaboration with Singapore-based World Toilet Organization (WTO) as the partnership provided access to WTO's expert knowledge and rich resources to help bring in the historical and cultural context about how sanitation has evolved.

*Know Your Poo* exhibition has five themed zones –



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### Zone 1: Biology of Wastes

Go back to basics with a lesson on digestion and waste production. From bowel transit time to pathogen transmissions, here is everything you need to know about what goes on inside your digestive system. Plus, journey through the Secret Chamber of Farts to learn some fun facts on bodily gas and more importantly, what causes them.

### Zone 2: Where do Wastes go?

Now that you've made an offering to the porcelain throne, what happens next? This zone illustrates the "offloading" process and also how wastes are collected around different parts of the world. Get the dirt on the engineering behind our toilet bowls, then sober up with a showcase on the global sanitation crisis and the need for improved sanitation in less-developed countries.

### Zone 3: Singapore Waste Treatment Story

Singapore has come a long way from open defecation to the modern flush toilets installed in almost every home. Explore how toilets and sanitation have evolved over the course of our history by taking a peek into cubicles showcasing past and present conditions.

### Zone 4: The Future of Sanitation

Dive into the future toilet with a cutting-edge prototype developed by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Researchers hope to turn this - a toilet that does not require water - into a viable solution for the 4.5 billion people who suffer from a lack of safely operated sanitation systems. This innovative system will use a chemical to turn human waste into fertiliser. In this zone, guests can also learn more about the Toilet Cleanliness Index and share thoughts on local sanitation issues.

### Zone 5: Evolution of Toilet and Sanitation

Before sliding out of the exhibition, get cultured on toilet etiquette around the world and brush up on your toilet history, from chamber pots to sponges on sticks.

*Know Your Poo* is a permanent exhibition running at the Science Centre Singapore at Hall B on Level 1. Passes can be purchased online at <https://www.science.edu.sg/visit-us/ticket-prices> and onsite at Science Centre Singapore's ticketing counters.

More details about the exhibition can be found at <https://www.science.edu.sg>, or, visit us <https://www.facebook.com/ScienceCentreSG/>.

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**About Science Centre Singapore**

Science Centre Singapore, a non-formal educational institution and leading regional Science Centre, along with its group of attractions, brings out the wonders of science, technology, engineering and mathematics through its unique blend of exhibitions, educational programmes and events. A custodian of creativity and innovation, Science Centre Singapore has captured the evolution of scientific developments for nearly four decades.

The Centre and its partners have played a pivotal role in transforming the way students and the public interact with and learn about science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Since 1997, the Centre has welcomed over 30 million visitors and inspired them with more than 1,000 exhibits spread across 14 exhibition galleries and outdoor exhibition spaces.

The Centre's group of attractions include Omni-Theatre, Snow City and KidsSTOP™. The Omni-Theatre is an immersive dual-technology edutainment destination fitted with Southeast Asia's largest seamless dome screen and featuring the latest and brightest 8k digital fulldome system in the world. Snow City is Singapore's only permanent indoor snow centre offering an Arctic inspired experience at Singapore's first ice gallery and snow chamber. KidsSTOP™ - Where every child gets to Imagine, Experience, Discover and Dream - is Singapore's first children's science centre offering an enriching experience through purposeful play for children aged 18 months to 8 years old. For more information, please visit [www.science.edu.sg](http://www.science.edu.sg).