

# IISER Pune reaches 1.5m viewers with science activity

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**PUNE:** Being confined to their homes ever since the imposition of lockdowns, everyone from children to adults has turned to the online medium in a big way. Taking this a step forward, the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune, a research-intensive educational institute, last year initiated online demonstration sessions titled "Next-Gen Science Camps: Exploring Fun Activities at Your Doorstep" to make learning science a fun exercise. The experiment proved successful with the IISER managing to reach out to over 1.5 million viewers over the course of the pandemic and even completing the 50th episode of its demonstration sessions last week.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Rupner, programme manager, science activity centre, IISER Pune, said, "The present situation induced by the ongoing pandemic gave the science activity centre an opportunity to explore the online



**Ashok Rupner, programme manager, science activity centre, IISER Pune.**

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medium to reach out to students, teachers, and science enthusiasts, going beyond geographical boundaries. The centre initiated online demonstration sessions beginning June 7 last year."

Rupner further said, "The sessions are designed with school curricula in mind but are organised topic-wise. The sessions begin with 40 minutes of demonstrations of science and mathematics activities followed

by a 20 minutes question and answer (Q&A) with IISER Pune scientists. The sessions aim at incorporating hands-on activities that can be performed with readily available materials. They allow students and teachers to explore scientific concepts related to their curriculum in an exciting manner." It is learned that the questions are chosen from those received over the previous weeks from members of the audience.