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How to handle a radioactive nucleus: a LEGO Robot for ISOLDE

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An outreach programme has been developed at The University of Manchester to introduce Year 10/11 students (14-16 year old) to nuclear physics research and, hopefully, excite them about the cool things that can be achieved with a Physics degree. This project was initiated in conjunction with ISOLDE 50th anniversary, which was celebrated last year, and towards the 50th anniversary of ISOLDE's first radioactive ion beam. This programme is funded by the STFC Public Engagement Small Award.

The outreach programme combines lectures about radioactivity, with a focus on understanding basic concepts such as radioactivity and radioprotection, and the manipulation of LEGO Mindstorm kits to think about the difficulty of remote handling of very radioactive material. In this presentation, we shall report on the activity and the workshops we have carried out, as well as introducing **LE-MITH** (LEGO Mindstorm ISOLDE Target Handler), a new robot to be added to the ISOLDE family, but dedicated to the ISOLDE Visitors Space.

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