

Curiosity Show gets a second chance at life, goes viral on YouTube

ABC Gold Coast By [Damien Larkins](#) and [Nicole Dyer](#)

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PHOTO: [Curiosity Show host Deane Hutton](#) says the classic show is enjoying a second life online. (ABC Adelaide: Malcolm Sutton)

The iconic Australian children's television show The Curiosity Show is having a booming second life, going viral online.

The Curiosity Show captured the imaginations of Aussie kids, teaching them simple science experiments to do at home.

It was produced in South Australia and ran nationally from 1972 until 1990.

In 2013, hosts Deane Hutton and Rob Morrison secured the full rights to the series after production company Banksia went into liquidation.

Since then they've been posting the almost 5,000 segments on YouTube.

Deane Hutton said after five years they had almost 4 million hits.

But that's sky-rocketed to more than 11 million in the past month.

"People have seen segments that have appealed to them, then suddenly they start sharing them with their friends," he said.

"Pretty soon you get a flourishing viral growth."

The hosts are delighted with the result.

"We wondered whether it'd look a bit old hat, it was in the 70s and 80s and the fashions people wore in those days were pretty awful," Mr Hutton said.

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"We have awful shirts and jumpers, we actually wore skivvies before the Wiggles did.

"People don't mind, in fact they think it's quite humorous and we get interesting comments on it."



PHOTO: The Curiosity Show hosts Deane Hutton and Rob Morrison taught Australian kids science through simple experiments. (Supplied: Curiosity Show)

But he said the important part was that the science is still sound.

One segment on self-starting siphons has been watched more than 1.6 million times, another on the isochronous curve has had 2.4 million views.

Optical illusions are popular, as well as several episodes translated into German.

"I think people always want to know how things work and why things happen," Mr Hutton said.

"We believe that if you start with one question and end up with five or 10 questions you're doing well.

"One of the things about science is it helps to answer questions ... but it also raises more questions."

Nowadays Mr Hutton visits schools and conferences promoting STEM education.

"Looking back at what we did on the Curiosity Show, we were doing STEM segments before they were named as such," he said.

"We believe there's enough material there to keep young people occupied for the rest of their lives."

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