



Having fun... Tisharlia and Sherkeira Abala and Jesse Nelson. Picture: JUSTIN BRIERTY

Science turns out to be lots of fun

Kate Fantinel

THE idea of going on a science trip was boring and uncool for student Sherkeira Abala.

But an all-expenses paid trip to Darwin for the Siemens Science Experience showed her and seven other Alice Springs students just

how much fun science could be. Sherkeira, 14, said: "When I first found out I was going, I was a bit embarrassed. But when I got to Darwin it was fun."

Sherkeira, sister Tisharlia, 13, and Jesse Nelson, 14, of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College, were chosen to attend the event by the Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation.

The foundation, which helps indigenous students stay in school, covered the costs of the trip.

This year's theme, *Science in the Tropics*, allowed students to explore different environments first-hand.

Sherkeira said: "We went to the mangroves and then into the labs at CDU to look at hermit crabs and things we had found outside."