Introduction

The SimplyScience Foundation (SimplyScience.ch) is launching the seventh edition of the nation-wide science competition for high school classes one or two years prior to the Swiss Matura. The project is intended to inspire interest in sciences for a broad spectrum of students. The competition is especially attractive because of its top prize for the winning class and their teacher to spend a science week abroad. The concept and content of this competition have been developed by a special project team as part of the SimplyScience Foundation.

Objective

The objective of this competition is to identify the class with the greatest dedication and greatest commitment in science subjects through a two-phase competition. Interdisciplinarity is welcome.

In the first, practical, phase (Phase 1), the goal is to develop a model for sustainable production of biomass without sunlight. Think “Vertical Gardening”, “Aquacultures”, etc. This ecological topic fits well into the curriculum and the students will perform experiments and document the whole project (model, poster, video clip). The topic is also well suited for an interdisciplinary project e.g. biology-chemistry or biology-geography.

In contrast, the second phase (Phase 2) of the competition calls for different capabilities. In a brief five-minute live performance on stage, the top 10 classes will illustrate the experiences they had while conducting the task.

Teamwork

The entire class shall participate in this competition. Good organisation, clever division of tasks, strong communication in the group and mutual support are indispensable aspects in order to do well. It is expected that students perform a variety of tasks such as executing research, performing experiments, designing and formatting documenting material, and performing on stage. This requires a variety of different strengths and abilities, which should allow all students to actively participate.

Target group

Science on the Move is intended for high school classes (level “Gymnasium”), one or two years prior to the Swiss Matura in all regions of Switzerland. Generally, this corresponds to the 10th and 11th school year. It is also possible to build a “new” class consisting of students from different classes. The number of participating classes is limited and they will be considered in the order of their application. Classes with more than 14 students will be prioritised. To ensure equal chances for all language regions, all competition activities will be in English – the international language of science.

Teachers/Mentoring

The teachers play a crucial role in Science on the Move. Besides coaching their students, they encourage and motivate them throughout the phases of the competition. They should promote inclusion, creativity, innovation, confidence and fun and empower students to handle their problems independently. They also provide
guidance and reassurance on research topics and methodology. It is also desirable
that they contribute with logistical support, especially in Phase 2.
Teachers should not get involved themselves in solving and correcting the task in
Phase 1. To ensure this, a signed agreement by the respective teacher must be
submitted.

Time Management
Each class has **8 weeks** to complete the project in **Phase 1**. The effort required for
Phase 1 is estimated at **10 half-days**. It is possible for classes to continue working
on the project outside of their normal classroom hours.

Team Leader
Each class will select its **team leader** and a deputy team leader among the students.
These students will be the contacts for the “Science on the Move” organizers. Con-
tact information of the teacher is also required.

Phase 1 Challenge
In Phase 1, the task will be published on [www.simplyscience.ch](http://www.simplyscience.ch) on **February 6, 2023**. The solutions and documenting material must be submitted according to the
specifications and time schedule provided by the organizers.

Each class needs to keep an “Activity List” which records which student was or is re-
sponsible for each part or aspect of the work. Each student in the class must have
participated at least once in Phase 1. We recommend that the classes organize
themselves, assigning and sharing responsibilities among themselves. It is not nec-
essary for each student to be involved in every aspect of the task.

Every participating class will receive a financial contribution of CHF 500.- for the
material they need to fulfil the task.

Phase 1 Scoring
All eligible submissions received on time will be reviewed and evaluated by the
project team. A **scoring list** will be provided showing the maximum points achieva-
ble for each subtask. The **project team** will then determine the **top 10 classes**.

The 10 top-rated classes will be announced in the middle of **April 2023**. At this
point, they will be expected to compete again in the Final Event (Phase 2).

Phase 2 Challenge
Only the 10 top-rated classes will proceed to Phase 2 of the competition (which is
organized very differently than Phase 1) and take part in the **Final Event on Thurs-
day, 8th June 2023** at Roche in Basel/Kaiseraugst.

At the Final Event, the individual classes will each have to deliver a five-minute live
performance on stage. The objective of the performance is for students to link, as
imaginatively and convincingly as possible, their experiences during the first phase
of the competition with the subject of the competition “Science on the Move”.

Music, literature, poetry, theatre, a debate or a straightforward presentation ... 
anything goes. Homemade videos are welcome but may only be a part of the per-
formance. Personal live performance on stage is required. It is up to the class how
many people from their class will perform on stage.

All performances will be judged by an expert jury according to the scoring aspects
outlined below.

Phase 2 Scoring
**Content, relevance to the topic of Phase 1.** Is the performance relevant to the top-
ic? Are the aspects addressed relevant to the topic?

**Creativity, depth, level.** Is the performance engaging? Is it creative? Is it thought-
ful? Is it thought-provoking?
**Persuasive power, enthusiasm and dedication.** How convincing was the performance? How much passion and dedication were shown? How strong was the will to win this competition as a team?

**Prizes**

The **first prize** is a **science week abroad** with a diverse and exciting science program for the whole class.

**2nd prize**: a three-day science field trip in Switzerland

**3rd prize**: a two-day science field trip in Switzerland

**4th–10th prize**: a one-day science field trip in Switzerland

All participating classes will receive a **certificate** to confirm their participation in “Science on the Move”.

**Timeline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start Application period:</td>
<td>November 1, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application deadline:</td>
<td>January 20, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Announcement of participating classes:</td>
<td>January 27, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Phase 1 – Challenge</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Publication of task:</td>
<td>February 6, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing date (submission of project documentation):</td>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
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<td>Selection of the top 10 classes:</td>
<td>April 3 - 14, 2023</td>
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<td><strong>Phase 2 – Preparation Stage Performance &amp; Final Event</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Announcement of the top 10 classes:</td>
<td>April 14, 2023</td>
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<td>Stage performance and winner selection:</td>
<td>June 8, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Winning class: Science trip abroad</strong> (students + teacher)</td>
<td>September 2023</td>
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**Questions?**

E-mail: [scienceonthemove@simplyscience.ch](mailto:scienceonthemove@simplyscience.ch)

**Contacts**

Sarah Menzi (Project Manager)  +41 (0) 44 368 17 48

Thomas Flüeler (Managing Director)  +41 (0) 44 368 17 46

We look forward to being in touch with you and we wish everyone great success in the Science on the Move challenge.

**Diversity & Inclusion**

Creativity and innovation are at the core of this competition, therefore we value inclusion and diversity, such as different thinking styles, experiences, gender, ethnicity, nationality and all Swiss language regions. Additionally, we are committed to accommodating participants with disabilities or special needs.

**Terms & Conditions**

Students must reside in Switzerland to be eligible for the competition. Application to the competition is only possible with a class or a group of students. The number of participating classes is limited and they will be considered in the order of their application. Classes with more than 14 students will be prioritised. It is also possible to build a “new” class with teachers and students from different classes. Only classes enrolled in the school year one or two years before the Matura at a Swiss “Gymnasium” are eligible for the competition. Employees of the SimplyScience Foundation and members of the jury or the project team are not al-
allowed to share any additional information about the competition with friends and teachers of any school. Information on rank and points achieved will only be communicated after the end of the competition and only upon request. Any appeal to a court of law is excluded. Winning classes will be informed directly by the SimplyScience Foundation. The exchange of prizes for cash or any other prize is not possible. SimplyScience.ch is allowed to publish all photos and videos received or taken during the competition in any print or electronic media channels.

**By applying for this competition, each person agrees to the terms and conditions stated above.**

**About SimplyScience**

The SimplyScience Foundation operates the online platform [www.simplyscience.ch](http://www.simplyscience.ch). It is intended for all Swiss children and young people between 8 and 18 years of age. Articles, images, videos, experiments and competitions establish a connection between natural science or technology topics and everyday life in an easy-to-understand manner.

The goal of the SimplyScience Foundation is to promote science and technology and inspire the next generation of innovators. SimplyScience encourages public awareness of science and technology for students, parents and teachers.