Introduction

The SimplyScience Foundation (SimplyScience.ch) is launching the sixth 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 in London and Cambridge or Oxford (England). 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. Chemistry, biology, electronics, economics ... anything goes! Interdisciplinarity is welcome.

In the first, practical, phase (Phase 1), the goal is to develop a smart system that contributes to improving our daily life. Great ideas can become game changers in the fields of communication, technical inventions, scientific achievements or social interactions. For more information on smart systems, please visit: https://tinyurl.com/y6cpqc9e

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, translating, 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 must not get involved themselves in solving and correcting the task in
Phase 1. To ensure this, a signed agreement by the respective teacher and the class
team leader must be submitted. Their signatures will confirm that they will comply
with these rules.

**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. However, teachers can also allow the project to take place during
their normal teaching time.

**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 required for any questions or issues regarding the
competition.

**Phase 1 Challenge**

In Phase 1, the task will be published on [www.simplyscience.ch](http://www.simplyscience.ch) on **February 8, 2021**.

This year’s challenge will involve the development and documentation of an idea of
a smart system. This may be a product, a procedure, a whole system ...

The solutions and documenting material must be submitted according to the speci-
fications 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 tasks among themselves. It is not necessary for
each student to perform all the tasks.

Every participating class will receive a financial contribution for 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 task. The **project team** will then determine the **top 10 classes**.

The 10 top-rated classes will be announced in the middle of **April 2021**. 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 11th
June 2021** 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 issue of Phase 1.** Is the performance relevant to the issue? Are the aspects addressed relevant to the issue?

**Creativity, depth, level.** Is the performance engaging? Is it creative? Is it well thought-out? 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 week-long trip to London and Cambridge or Oxford (England) with a diverse and exciting science program. The winning class will visit state-of-the-art businesses and colleges, famous science museums and of course get to see the city of London.

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

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

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

Additionally, all 10 top-rated classes will have the opportunity to experience a science visit at Roche in Basel, Kaiseraugst, Rotkreuz or the remediation centre in Grenzach.

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

**Timeline**

- **Start Application period:**
  - November 2020
- **Application deadline:**
  - January 15, 2021
- **Announcement of participating classes:**
  - January 22, 2021

**Phase 1 – Challenge**

- **Publication of task:**
  - February 8, 2021
- **Closing date (submission of project documentation):**
  - April 1, 2021
- **Selection of the top 10 classes:**
  - April 6 - 16, 2021

**Phase 2 – Preparation Stage Performance & Final Event**

- **Announcement of the top 10 classes:**
  - April 16, 2021
- **Stage performance and winner selection:**
  - June 11, 2021

**Winning class: Science trip to London**

(students + teacher)

**Sept 5 - 11, 2021**

**Questions?**

E-mail: 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 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 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. It is intended for all Swiss children and young people between 8 and 18 years of age. Texts, 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.