



Science on the Move 2017

School Class Competition

SimplyScience.ch

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The SimplyScience Foundation is launching the fourth edition of the **nation-wide science competition for school classes one or two years prior to the Swiss Matura**. The project, intended to inspire interest in life sciences for a broad spectrum of pupils, is noteworthy for 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 for 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 the subjects of **biology or biochemistry** through a two phase competition.

In the first **practical phase (Phase 1)**, the goal is to conduct **one task in the field of biology or biochemistry** and to discuss the results.

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

Target group

The **entire class shall compete** 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. People with different strengths should be able to contribute. Apart from performing the experiments, other skills such as preparing layouts, translating, doing research or performing on stage are also expected.

Science on the Move is intended for 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. All competition activities will be in **English** - the language in which scientists communicate and publish around the globe.

Participants

Participants in this competition are **exclusively pupils** in the participating classes. The **teachers play a central role in coaching their students**. They provide logistical support to their classes; this is even desirable, especially for Phase 2. It is, however, explicitly forbidden for teachers themselves to get involved in solving and correcting the task in Phase 1. In order to enforce this requirement, a signed statement 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 about **8 weeks** to complete the project in **Phase 1**. The effort required for Phase 1 is estimated at approximately **10 half-days**. This is only an estimate of the time needed and it is possible for classes to continue working on the project outside of their normal classroom hours.

We recommend that the teachers should allow the project to take place during their normal teaching time with their class. The project is very close to the curriculum and would therefore fit well within the entire aspects of the pupils' training.

Team Leader Each class will select its **team leader** and a back-up among the pupils. These individuals will be the contacts for the "Science on the Move" organizers. Contact information of the respective teachers is also requested in order to offer assistance in case of any competition questions or problems (see application form).

Phase 1 Challenge In Phase 1, one **experimental task** will be issued for the participating classes; this assignment will be published on www.simplyscience.ch in the second half of February 2017.

The task contains several subtasks to be solved or answered. Based on this particular section, multiple hypotheses should be considered, examined and discussed, and smaller problems must also be solved. The expected scope of the solutions will be provided for each subtask. In general, short answers are preferred to lengthy essays. The solutions and documenting material must be e-mailed as the documents according to the specifications and time schedule given by the organizers.

Each class needs to report in an "**Activity List**" which member was or is responsible for which part or aspect of the work. Each person in the class must have participated at least *once* in the experimental part. We recommend that the classes organize themselves and share the subtasks among the pupils. It is not necessary for each pupil to perform all the subtasks.

Every participating class will get a **Bio-Rad voucher** to organize required materials for the task.

Phase 1 Scoring All eligible submissions received on time will be reviewed and scored by the project team. A **scoring list** will be provided showing the maximum points achievable for each subtask. There will be a **student voting** that will count towards the determination of the top 10 classes. The **project team** will then determine the **top 10 classes**.

The 10 top-rated classes will be announced at the beginning of May 2017. At this point, they will be expected to compete again in the Final Event (Phase 2).

Ranking and marking information will only be communicated after the deadline of the competition and only upon request.

- Phase 2 Challenge** Only the **10 top-rated** classes will proceed to the second part of the competition which is organized very differently. For this, the individual classes will each have **five minutes** assigned for a **live presentation on stage** on **9th June 2017 at the Roche headquarters in Basel**. The objective is for pupils 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, a discussion theatre, a show or a straight forward presentation... anything goes. However, personal delivery is required. Home-made videos are welcome, but may only be a part of the presentation. It is up to the class to determine how many people from their class will participate on stage. The presentations will be judged by an **expert jury** of persons representing science and education. They will judge the presentations according to the scoring aspects outlined below.
- There will also be a **poster session** where two members of each class will have the opportunity to present a poster created in Phase 1 to the jury members.
- Phase 2 Scoring**
- Content, relevance to the issue.** Is the presentation directly connected with the issue? Are the aspects addressed relevant?
- Creativity, depth, level.** Did the presentation engage? Is it creative? Is it thoughtful? Was it thought-provoking?
- Persuasive power, enthusiasm and dedication.** How convincing was the presentation? How much passion and dedication was exhibited? 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** with a varied and exciting program around **science**. 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. Each day, the class will write a brief **blog** to be published via **SimplyScience.ch**.
- 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
- The classes will receive a substantial contribution to their field trip within Switzerland for the entire class.
- Additionally, all 10 top-rated classes will have the opportunity to enjoy a **science visit** at Roche in Basel, Kaiseraugst or Rotkreuz.
- All participants in the final phase will also receive a **certificate** to affirm their participation in "Science on the Move".
- Reminder**
- All participants entering this competition should recognize that it presents a certain amount of additional effort, on top of their everyday school work. However, this experience is primarily intended to enrich learning and to be fun!
Support is available in case of ambiguities or questions.
- We are looking forward to an interesting encounter with the participating pupils and wish them success in the Science on the Move challenge.

Timeline	Competition invitation posted on SimplyScience.ch and sent to schools: November, 2016
	Application deadline: January 27, 2017 (Week 4)
	Announcement of participating classes: February 3, 2017 (Week 5)
	Phase 1 – Challenge
	Publication experimental task: February 20, 2017 (Week 8)
	Closing date (submission of results): April 13, 2017 (Week 15)
	Selection of top 10 classes: April 18 - May 4, 2017
	Phase 2 – Final Event
	Announcement of top 10 classes: May 5, 2017 (Week 18)
	Final presentation and winner selection: June 9, 2017 (Week 23)
	Winning class: Science trip to London Sept 9 - 16, 2017 (Week 37) (pupils + 1 teacher)

Questions? E-Mail: scienceonthemove@simplyscience.ch

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Terms & Conditions *Eligible for the competition are pupils residing in Switzerland. Application to the competition is only possible together with fellow students as a whole class. The minimum number of participants in one class is 12, the maximum is 25 students per applying class. It is also possible to build a “new” class consisting of 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. Any recourse to courts of law is excluded. There will be no correspondence concerning the competition. Winning classes will be informed directly by the SimplyScience team. 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 in the frame of the competition for publication in any print or electronic media.*

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

About SimplyScience *The SimplyScience Foundation operates the online platform www.simplyscience.ch. It is addressed to all Swiss children and adolescents 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 the motivation and understanding of adolescents for natural science and technology thus giving them inspiration for education and career opportunities in science and economics. Attractively presented information helps raise the acceptance of science and technology among the general public.