



The
Geological
Society

South West Regional Group

Schools Geoscience Workshop and Schools Competitions 2020

Wednesday 12th February 2020

Key Stage 3/4 Competition

1st Prize – £50 of
Vouchers

2nd Prize – £30 of
Vouchers

3rd Prize - £15 of
Vouchers

Key Stage 5 Competition

1st Prize - £75 of
Vouchers

2nd Prize - £50 of
Vouchers

3rd Prize - £25 of
Vouchers

The South West Regional Group of the Geological Society would like to invite schools to participate in their "School's Geology Competition 2020". (There are two separate competitions – one for key stages 3 / 4 and one for key stage 5).

The key stage 3 / 4 competition is suitable for students studying geography and/or sciences which contain a significant amount of Geology/Geoscience.

The key stage 5 competition is open to schools teaching Advance level Science (Biology / Chemistry / Physics), Advanced level Geology **OR** Advanced level Geography. However, schools not offering Advanced level Geology must take into account that they will need to undertake as part of the competition a quiz based on knowledge equivalent to that expected in the two Advanced level Geology courses currently offered (OCR and WJEC/Eduqas Examination boards).

Programme.

Arrival and registration from 3:00 pm - Tours of the University of Plymouth Campus can be arranged if you plan to arrive earlier.

Workshop 3:30pm – 4:45pm – Professor Chris Smart will run a workshop around the theme of Microfossils and their uses and applications.

(Fitzroy Building 009 and 007)

5:00 – 5:30 pm - Break and poster session for viewing of key stage 3/4 competition entries and key stage 5 posters.

5:30 – 6:00 pm Presentations from key stage 5 entrants.

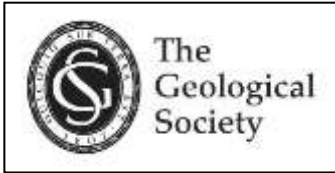
6:00 – 7:00 pm Key Stage 5 quiz

7:00 pm close.

Please register your interest via email to Gordon Neighbour
(gneighbour@tggsacademy.org)

We will ask for confirmation of interest by 24th January 2020.

"A condition of participation in the workshop is that the students are expected to take part in the competition – they can of course just enter the competition if they so wish."



South-West Regional Group Schools Geology Competition 2020

Key Stage 3 / 4 Competition – *“Fieldwork in the Geosciences”* **OR** *“Practical Work in the Geosciences”* **OR** *“Significant people, places or events in Geoscience”* - design a poster (up to A3 in size) based on a piece of geology/physical geography fieldwork **OR** a piece of Geoscience based practical work that they have undertaken **OR** something that they consider significant in the development of the Geological Sciences / Earth Sciences.

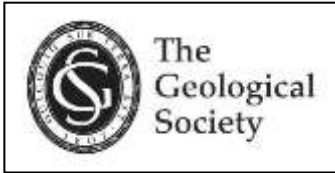
This may be a piece of work they have undertaken as a class exercise or that they have undertaken as an individual.

Please feel free to contact Gordon Neighbour gneighbour@tggsacademy.org (SWRG Schools Liaison) if you have any questions

Notes for Entrants – Key Stage 3 / 4 Competition

1. The competition is open to all schools in Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset who fit the criteria noted above.
2. This can be a team effort. Teams can be up to 5 participants.
3. The posters need to be no larger than A3 size and suitable for display on the evening of the SWRG Schools Geology Competition Evening. They need to be printed and brought to the competition for display **OR** they need to be printed and posted to Gordon Neighbour at the following address (FaO Gordon Neighbour FGS, Torquay Girls' Grammar School, 30 Shiphay Lane, Torquay, Devon. TQ2 7DY) – to arrive no later than 24th January 2020. It would be appreciated if students were able to attend the evening to discuss their poster presentation.
4. The competition will be judged by members of the Geological Society (SWRG) on the evening of the final of the SWRG Schools Geology Competition, whose decision will be final.
5. Confirmation of entries should be emailed to arrive by 24th January 2020 to gneighbour@tggsacademy.org

All entries will be displayed at the SWRG Schools Geology Competition Evening on 12th February 2020 at the University of Plymouth.



South-West Regional Group Schools Geology Competition 2020

Key Stage 5 Competition – this will be in three parts:

- [a]. A poster (up to A1 in size) based on a topic of the groups choice;
- [b]. A 6-minute presentation on the topic of the poster;
- [c]. A quiz with questions written by members of the University of Plymouth (School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences).

The south west regional group will host the final of the Key Stage 5 Schools Competition 2020 at the University of Plymouth on 12th February 2020.

Please submit an expression of interest in participating in the competition to Mr Gordon Neighbour FGS at gneighbour@tggsacademy.org no later than 17th January 2020.

Notes for Entrants – Key Stage 5 Competition

National Final at Burlington House

The Final will be held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, as a full day event on Thursday 19th March 2020. The format of the Final will be the same as the Heats, with a presentation, poster and quiz component. Lunch will be provided at the Final.

Presentation Rules

1. The presentation theme is chosen by the school and can be on anything related to Geology. Previous themes have included: Hydrothermal Vents; The Geology of Venus; The Geology of an Ipad; The Caledonian Orogeny in the UK.
2. Presentations must be no longer than 6 minutes. During a presentation, teams will be told when they have 1 minute remaining. Judges will deduct marks if a presentation exceeds 6 minutes. After the presentation, judges will have time to ask questions.
3. Not all members of a group have to present the talk, but **at least 2** must do so.
4. A final slide with key references (maximum 5) is required
5. Presentation Scoring

Presentations will be marked based on the following criteria:

- Technical content
- Structure of the presentation
- Delivery by the speakers
- Creativity Handling of Judge's questions

The presentation will constitute **50%** of the total score.

Poster Rules

1. The topic for the poster must be the same as the presentation.
2. All posters should be A1 size (594 x 841mm) and can be landscape or portrait.
3. All text on the poster must be no smaller than size 14 (excluding references and image captions).
4. Posters should include images or figures with figure captions.
5. The name of your school must be on the poster.
6. Key references (maximum 5) **must be** included on the poster. These should be written in a banner or in a dedicated text box at the bottom of the poster. There is no requirement to include references in the text but it is completely acceptable to do so.
7. An abstract or summary (no more than 250 words long) **is required** at the top of the poster. This gives a very brief overview of the content of the entire poster.
8. We understand that printing A1 sheets can be expensive. Therefore, we accept posters put together from 4xA3 sheets or as sections glued onto an A1-sized sheet.
9. Poster Scoring

Posters will be marked based on the following criteria:

- Technical content
- General Aesthetics
- Use of graphics
- Structure of the poster
- Memorability

The poster will constitute 25% of the total score.

Quiz Rules

The quiz will have a geoscience focus. All students in the group can take part in the quiz, which will be marked by the judges at the Heat and Final.

The quiz will constitute 25% of the total score.

Presentation guidelines – tips for a successful presentation

1. Make the presentation attractive! Ensure it uses lots of colour and that it contains many clear images. Don't just use default themes – design your own.
2. Text should only be relatively brief; bullet points or numbered points are essential. Also ensure you are not just reading off the slides. The text in these only serves as a guide to the audience; you must expand on the text.
3. You can use any slideshow software to make the presentation but please test it on a Windows computer before the event.
4. When including diagrams or graphs, make it really obvious what the audience should see. For example, use arrows or circles to pick out/highlight particular aspects of an image or diagram.
5. The time limit of 6 minutes is strict. It is highly recommended that your group practice the presentation and time it to ensure it falls safely within the 6 minutes.
6. Please remember that having too many slides can cause issues with timing. The audience should have time (at least 20 seconds) to view each slide.

Poster Guidelines – tips for a successful poster

1. Use lots of colour and images. Make sure the images are clear and relatively large if possible. In essence, keep it professional but make it attractive!
2. Text should be brief but informative. Consider using things like bullet points to break up the text rather than just writing long paragraphs. Titles should be large and clear.
3. Make sure you define the size of the poster page prior to working on it.
4. While pictures can make a poster more attractive, ensure that all images have a purpose. They should either inform the reader of new information or highlight a point made in the text. No image should be included for the sake of it.
5. Text should be broken up into segments. For example:
 1. Abstract or summary
 2. Introduction to topic
 3. Geology of topic
 4. Importance of topic
 5. Current research on topic
 6. Conclusions and/or implications