



START

Schools Teaching Awareness of Randomised Trials

START COMPETITION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Submission Guidelines

Format

Be creative with your submission! We accept many formats:

Digital formats:

- Videos (3-4 minutes long)
- Podcasts or audio recordings
- PowerPoint or Google Slides presentations
- PDF documents
- Digital posters or infographics
- Websites or Google Sites



Paper projects:

- If you created a physical project (poster, scrapbook, artwork), please scan or photograph it clearly
- Upload the digital images through our website
- Keep your original work safe - if shortlisted, you can bring it to the awards ceremony!

Important size limits:

- **Videos/audio:** 3-4 minutes maximum
- **Written reports:** 2,000 words maximum
- **File uploads:** Check the website for current size limits

Tips

- Please do not use copyrighted material without permission (e.g., TV clips, movies, online videos, music, sound recordings)
- Be mindful of sound quality when recording outdoors
- If external technical help was used, please inform us so we can fairly judge entries



To Upload Your Project

Upload your project by logging into <https://startcompetition.com/member-login/> and following the instructions step by step.

What Our Judges Look For

What impresses our judges the most isn't fancy presentations - it's how well you followed the scientific process! Here's what they'll be looking for:

1. Scientific thinking:

- Did you follow all the steps of the trial process properly, including randomisation?
- Did you understand why each step matters?
- Did you solve problems that came up during your trial?

2. Clear explanation:

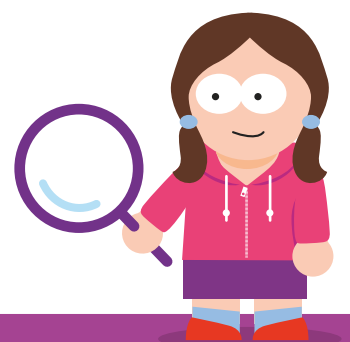
- Can anyone understand your findings, even people who don't know much about science?
- Did you use simple language and helpful visuals?
- Did you explain things in a logical order?

3. Educational value:

- Does your project teach something useful?
- Could other schools learn from what you discovered?
- Did you connect your findings to real-world situations?

4. Honest reflection:

- Did you discuss what worked well AND what didn't?
- Did you suggest how the trial could be improved?
- Did you share what surprised you or what you learned along the way?





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What to Include in Each Step

Step 1: Registering Your Trial

Show evidence that you registered your trial. You could include a screenshot of your registration confirmation or your trial registration number.

Step 2: Deciding Your Trial Question

Explain how your class chose this particular question. Show us your brainstorming process! Include photos of mind maps, voting charts, or notes from class discussions that helped you decide.

Step 3: Select Your Outcomes

Clearly state what you measured and how you measured it. For example: “We measured concentration by counting how many math problems students could solve in 10 minutes” or “We measured memory by having students recall items from a list.”

Step 4: Participants and Consent

Tell us who participated in your trial (which class, how many students, what ages) and show us your consent process. Include a sample of your consent form (with personal information removed).

Step 5: Randomisation

(How You Divided Your Participants into Groups)

Show exactly how you randomly assigned people to groups. Did you use a hat with names? A coin flip? A computer program? Include photos or drawings of your randomisation process in action. Explain why random assignment was important for making your trial fair.

Step 6: Blinding (Keeping it a Secret)

Tell us if your trial was blinded (participants didn’t know which group they were in) or not blinded. If it was blinded, explain how you kept it secret. If it wasn’t blinded, explain why that wasn’t possible for your particular trial. Remember: not all trials can be blinded, and that’s okay!

Step 7: Conducting Your Study

Take us through your trial day-by-day. Show the action with photos or drawings of your trial in progress. Include any data collection sheets you used, your schedule, and notes about any challenges you faced and how you solved them.

Step 8: Reporting Your Findings

Present your results clearly using charts, graphs, or tables that show what you found. Explain what your findings mean in simple language. Remember that “no difference” results are just as important as finding big differences! Include your class’s reaction to the results - were you surprised? Did you learn something unexpected?