



NPL School Science Film Challenge 2011



The Competition

The aim is to make a film, no more than two and a half minutes long describing or demonstrating an aspect of science correctly in an engaging way using materials for which you have copyright permission. The best 20 films will be showcased at a special awards event with category prizes given to the best 8, and cash prizes to the best two (£500 for a school entry, £300 for an 'independent' entry by a student). If you give permission we'll post your film on a special You-Tube website.

The Dates

- **Friday 30 September 2011:** Deadline for Independent Team entries who require a review from our experts on an 'first cut' version of their film (extended to Friday 14 October if an early version of the film has been reviewed by the competition shortly after 30 September)
- **Friday 14 October 2011:** Deadline for all entries
- **Week ending Friday 4 November 2011:** Nominated filmmakers invited to awards event
- **(Provisional) Tuesday 6 December 2011:** Awards ceremony in Twickenham announcing winners.

What to do

- Read the Rules below (especially the bit about copyright).
- See [what people have previously done \(before 2010\)](#), and for our 2010 competition. Also, visit [SciCast](#).
- Make your film.
- Fill in the application form (available at www.npl.co.uk/schoolsciencefilm).
- Submit your film.
- Wait to see if you have been nominated.
- If you have been nominated, you will be invited to the awards ceremony. There will be awards for subject categories (physics, chemistry, etc.) as well as the big two cash prize-winners. Teams are limited to 6 people, an adult **must** accompany and is responsible for each team.

Rules

- Your film must last no more than two and a half minutes (including credits) and must describe or demonstrate an aspect of science correctly, in an entertaining and engaging way.
- **School teams** may submit no more than two films. The £500 prize must be spent on developing the winning school's science.
- **Independent teams** must contain at least one school age member and entries will have the science content checked by the film competition judging panel - edits may be requested, so please be prepared to perform tweaks.
- **Copyright:** All material (vision and sound) must have been made by you or reproduced with the originator's permission. The submission form will require you to state sources of all materials used in your film. Some (but not all) music is copyright 'free' at www.ccmixer.org or www.jamendo.com, or just make the music yourself. You cannot use music from a recording or film - or even sing/hum it unless you have written permission from the publisher of the music. Many films are disqualified in similar competitions because of such copyright issues.
- **Format:** Please make a good copy of your film on disc, either in wmv, mp4 or standard DVD format. Standard, not High Definition please. Keep a copy for yourself as well, just in case your submission gets lost in the post.
- Films must not have previously been submitted to the Richmond Science Film or Planet SciCast competitions.

What does NPL know about science films?

- NPL has its own [YouTube site](#)
- NPL staff have won Best Film award at [SciCast](#)
- NPL regularly helps TV programmes like the BBC's Horizon and Bang Goes the Theory

Any questions?

Email: schoolsciencefilm@npl.co.uk