

# Judging Criteria for School Science Prize

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This year, the STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory will again be running a School Science Prize for students in Years 7 and 8. Everyone who enters will receive an e-certificate, and the overall winner will receive an Amazon Fire 7 tablet.

- To enter the competition, we'd like students to write a 500-word essay titled "Why I love science".
- We've provided this 'scoring' sheet, to help students when writing their essays.
- We'll be holding an in-person and online celebration of all the entries on Friday 13 December, at 17:30. We will ask our finalists to record a 3-minute video about / of their entry to share at the celebration. We'll also arrange a special experience for our finalists, their families and their teachers, and will share the recording of this with all participants.
- We need to receive entries by midnight on Wednesday 6 November. Entries can be submitted either in class sets by teachers, or individual entries by parents, and we will let all students know whether or not they are finalists by the end of Friday 22 November.
- To enter, please upload entries (in .doc, .docx, .pdf, .odt or .txt format) on our entry form: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SSP-2023/> Please make sure that the name and school of the entrant is in the text of the entry, and that the file name is in the format "LastName-FirstName". For example, if the student's name is Sam Smith, and their entry is a pdf, the file should be named "SmithSam.pdf".

We can't wait to read the essays!

## Scoring criteria

Our judges all work at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, and will score each essay out of 20, using the following questions:

Section	Scoring Criteria Questions	Score	Comments
Creativity and originality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the essay show the student's personality?</li> <li>• Does the essay use personal experiences to answer 'why I love science'?</li> <li>• Is there something that makes the essay stand out?</li> </ul>	/10	
Clarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the essay answer 'why I love science'?</li> <li>• Is the essay around 500 words (roughly 1 page of A4)?</li> </ul>	/5	
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the content factually correct?</li> <li>• Is the content engaging?</li> </ul>	/5	
Comments Overall	Overall score	/20	