



Dear Principal/Teacher,

Are you looking for a fun Science project for the new school year?

ReelLIFE SCIENCE is a new video competition for Irish schools, encouraging students to engage with Science by making an entertaining and educational short movie on a range of science topics. The competition is launching nationwide in all primary and secondary schools on Monday September 1st and videos should reach us by October 17th, to be considered for the competition.

With over **€3000** in prizes to be won, the makers of the best video at primary and secondary school level will each receive €1000, to be spent on promoting science in the winning school. Second and third-placed entries at each level will receive €300 and €200, respectively. Winners will also be invited to attend the Galway Science and Technology Festival on November 23rd in NUI Galway, to receive their certificates and prizes and to view the winning videos being screened for the public.

Primary school topics include 'The Power of Science' and 'Science in the Garden', while secondary school topics include 'Science Heroes' and 'Physics in Real Life'. A full list of topics as well as advice for making the 3 minute videos and submitting them online is available at www.reellifescience.com.

Winning videos will be selected by special guest judges Stephen Curry (Professor of Structural Biology at Imperial College London and Science writer with The Guardian), Aoibhinn Ní Shúilleabháin (Lecturer in Mathematics at University College Dublin, Radio and TV broadcaster, columnist and author) and Paul Clarke (6th year student in St. Paul's College, Raheny, winner of the SciFest National Final 2013 and Overall Winner of the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition 2014), and will be announced during the week beginning November 10th, to coincide with Science Week 2014.

ReelLIFE SCIENCE was piloted in Galway schools last year with great success and winning videos can be viewed at www.youtube.com/reellifescience. Feedback from last year's participants was very positive. Margaret, a secondary school teacher remarked how "the project contributed to skill development and pupil enjoyment of science" and noted "it was a great opportunity for students who can struggle with literacy in conventional projects to produce something they were proud to show to others" while Martina, a primary school teacher told us her Junior and Senior infants "really enjoyed making this Science video and I know it is something that the children will never forget."

More information about **ReelLIFE SCIENCE**, which is supported by the Science Foundation Ireland Discover programme, can be found at www.reellifescience.com.

Dr. Enda O'Connell,
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