Teachers’ Step-By-Step Guide to the Big Science Event

Thank you for choosing to take part in the Big Science Event this year!

The Big Science Event is designed to engage primary aged children with practical science by giving them more agency over what and how they choose to investigate. This approach has been shown to improve both attainment in and enjoyment of science as a subject. Find out more about the ‘Thinking, Doing, Talking Science’ project and how the approach works by visiting <https://scienceoxford.com/thinking-doing-talking-science/>.

1. **Before January**, register your students at <https://scienceoxford.com/events/big-science-event/>, using the online form. We’ll use the email address you provide to stay in touch and to share ideas and resources with you, as well as letting you know about upcoming deadlines.
2. Look at the information about the event – there’s lots of useful documents, including a presentation that you could use to introduce the Big Science Event to other teachers in your school. If you have any questions, email us on schools@scienceoxford.com.
3. If your school is new to pupil led investigation or if your staff aren’t sure about where to start, consider booking our Pupil Led Investigations twilight CPD session (<https://scienceoxford.com/events/much-air-take-pop-banana/>). If you’re a member school, you could book the session for free! Find out more about membership here: <https://scienceoxford.com/schools/membership/>.
4. Start your investigations! You can spend as much time on this as you like – schools have **until the Easter holidays** to complete your investigations and do your in-school judging. On the <https://scienceoxford.com/events/big-science-event/> page, there are lots of ideas of where to start, including past investigation titles.
5. Make sure you leave time before the Easter holidays to do your in-school judging. We ask you to choose teams to go through to the cluster judging stage – one team if you are a single form entry school, two if you are a dual form entry school and so on. You are welcome to use the judging forms on the website or choose your own criteria and there are also downloadable participation certificates available for all your teams.
6. Upload your winning team(s) to <https://scienceoxford.com/events/big-science-event/>, using the online form. This will be available after registration closes in January and you can upload teams at any point **before the end of the Easter holidays**.
7. We’ll be in touch to decide on a suitable date for our judges to come out to your school and see your winning team(s). This will happen soon after the Easter holidays, so make sure you tell us any dates that your team(s) can’t do when you upload your winners.
8. Once our judges have seen all the teams, we’ll choose the finalists in each county and invite all those teams to a grand final towards **the end of the summer term**. We’ll also let you know if your team(s) have been unsuccessful this year. The final is a full day of fun science activities where each team will present their investigation to a panel of judges who will choose an overall winner. We make the day as relaxed as possible for all the teams and we always have a range of ages attending.