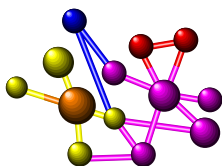


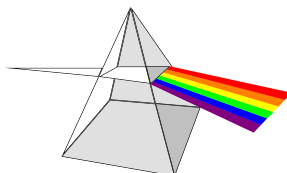
CRYSTAL GROWING COMPETITION



July - September 2013
Term 3

Promoting

 **National Chemistry Week in July**
 **National Science Week in August**



Have your students ever tried to grow crystals?

Here is an opportunity for students to take part in a scientific competition. The process is simple, and designed to encourage students to develop an interest in Chemistry from a young age. Students can participate as individuals or with a friend, small groups or class groups. The competition is open to students in Grades Prep – 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 at the primary level and students in Grades 8, 9 & 10 at the secondary level. During the project, the students observe the process and write observations, and submit a one page report with each crystal for judging. Prizes are allocated for each grade (grades Prep – 3 are judged together). If insufficient entries are received for a grade, more than one grade may be judged together. All students participating will receive a crystal sticker and a participation certificate. The winners receive award certificates and plaques.



HOW DO YOU GROW GOOD CRYSTALS?

Crystals require between 3 - 6 weeks to grow, so it is important to begin your experiments early enough to allow time for your crystals to develop. With simple kitchen items, students can grow their first seed crystal and then with time and patience watch it grow, writing their observations as they go. The report should be age appropriate, of 1 page long, setting out the materials used (i.e. ingredients and equipment used) and then stating their observations during the project.

Download the two (2) separate documents from the RACI website

<http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/crystal-growing-competition>

+ Notes for Teachers

+ Advice for Students

Here are some links for how to grow crystals.

<http://rockhoundingar.com/pebblepups/growcryst.html>

<http://www.seawhy.com/xl.html>

- + For the **Standard Competition** students grow crystals from alum (potassium aluminium sulphate) which can be purchased from Rowe Scientific Pty Ltd (see separate Alum Order Form on the RACI website
<http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/crystal-growing-competition>).
- + Students can also enter the **Open Competition** where they are able to grow crystals from any substance that can be safely sent through the mail.

HOW DO YOU ENTER?

An Entry Form is available on the RACI website. Here is the link.

<http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/crystal-growing-competition>

- + **Remember you only need to send the form when you send crystals for judging and only give the names of students whose crystal you are entering,**
- + Please include on the entry form the total number of students who grew crystals so they can all be rewarded with a sticker.
- + Even if you do not have any crystal entries let us know about all those who tried so they receive stickers.
- + **Entries should be mailed by the end of Term 3 (Friday 20th September 2013 – and late entries will be accepted up to Friday 27th September 2013 – to allow for postage delays)**

How do you find out more information?

Check the RACI website

<http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/crystal-growing-competition>

Or contact

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