Friends of the Environment Science Fair
November 15th, 2018

Theme: Investigating and implementing ways to eliminate single-use plastics

Highlighting Last Years Winners:

Lower Primary
1st - Man-O-War Primary
2nd - Central Abaco Primary
3rd - Treasure Cay Primary

Upper Primary:
1st - Hope Town Primary
2nd - Man O War Primary
3rd - Angel’s Academy

Lower High School
1st- Patrick J. Bethel High School
2nd - Forest Heights Academy
3rd - Long Bay School

Upper Secondary
1st - Patrick J. Bethel High School
2nd - Forest Heights Academy
3rd - Long Bay School

Background

Projects should show evidence of research into a topic surrounding single-use plastics or a single-use plastic product(s). Students should then use that research to inform an action component for their project. Waste management is a big concern for our country! Student projects will contribute to our knowledge and understanding of the plastics waste stream and help provide examples of ways that people can change behaviours to reduce or eliminate single-use plastics from our daily lives.

Projects must be based on scientific investigations, an experiment or surveys, including environmental and/or social perspectives. All information outlining how the project was done, key findings and conclusions, should be included in a poster presentation and other media formats as you desire. We will also be looking for an “action” component in each project that demonstrates student participation in solutions, behavior change, or community outreach for increasing public understanding of the importance of reducing the amount of waste we generate.

Action components could study existing behaviours in order to make suggestions for improvement, or investigate the effectiveness of implementing new solutions.
**If high schools do not use the scientific method the project will be placed in the Non-competitive/Display category.

**Judging criteria: Science Fair 2018**

There are Four categories to be judged. Each judge should complete all of the criteria.

Winners in the high school categories will be invited to present at the Abaco Science Alliance Conference, January 2020.

**Categories:**

**Originality (Score 1-5 points):**
Projects should have original information and not just copy and paste from other sources not made by schools (e.g. brochures, internet). Students should be able to demonstrate an original thought process.

**Content (Score 1-10 points):**
Information should be consistent with chosen topic and relate to overall theme. 
*For Secondary Schools*: Headings should relate to the scientific method (abstract, introduction, hypothesis, methods, discussion/conclusion including sources of error and methods for improvement).
*For primary schools*: Headings should reflect what you did, how you did it, and what you found out (do not need to use those phrases verbatim).

**Presentation/Appearance (Score 1-5 points):**
Project should be well presented. If hand written, it should be legible. Projects should be neat and tidy, and follow a logical order. Projects which are eye-catching will score higher.

**Student Explanation (Score 1-5 points):**
Students should be able to answer questions posed to them by judges and display that they have an overall knowledge of the project.
**Specific to this year’s theme, judges will be looking for students to give suggestions of how their findings can be used to raise awareness in the community.**

*In the case of a tie, the project scoring higher on student explanation will be the winner.*

**Rules**

Each school is allowed one entry per category. Additional entries will be placed in the display category and will not be judged.

Prizes will be awarded to the winning school and not to individual students.
Here are some basic terms related to the theme:

Plastic - a synthetic material made from a wide range of organic polymers such as polyethylene, PVC, nylon, etc., that can be moulded into shape while soft, and then set into a rigid or slightly elastic form.

Single use plastic - An item made from plastic that is designed to be used once and thrown away. E.g. straws, grocery bags, cups, plates, forks.

Resource - items or materials of value belonging to or found in a certain place.

Natural Resource - a resource obtained from the environment for human benefit.

Renewable resource - A natural resource that can be replenished when it is consumed (e.g. solar power, agricultural products, sustainable fisheries). Note that not all renewable resources can be used indefinitely by humans, some have to be carefully managed.

Non-renewable resource - once the resource is consumed it will never return (e.g. fossil fuels)

Sustainable - when a resource is consumed in a way that there is always some left for the future.

Also, check out the 5R’s! Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose!

Science Trivia

The Science Trivia is held during the judges deliberations. Select two students to represent your school.

Categories
Primary School
High School