



YOUNG ENTOMOLOGISTS' DAY

26th February 2011

GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTERS



PLEASE READ THIS SHEET CAREFULLY

The most important thing is that presenters enjoy talking to an audience. The judges want you to have fun: if you enjoy talking about something that is important to you we will enjoy hearing about it.

Children should not feel that this is a formal event, we will do all we can to re-assure and help them enjoy the day. The information below is intended to help the children to know what to expect.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The judges for the day are very experienced and also very open-minded. We want you to do your presentation YOUR way, whatever that is. Some people will find it helpful to have some guidance, so we have provided some below, but please come along and give a talk even if it doesn't follow this loose framework!

1. Age Categories

Children's contributions will be judged in three age groups, as follows:

9 and under
10-13 years
14-18 years

2. Allocation of marks

Marks will be awarded according to the following:

Content	60%
Presentation skills:	
Delivery	20%
Structure and time	10%
Use of supportive material	10%

3. Content

All presentations **MUST** relate to entomology, but this will be broadly interpreted to include creatures commonly referred to as 'bugs', 'creepy crawlies' or minibeasts, even if they are not insects, such as snails, scorpions, spiders, millipedes etc.

Judges are hoping for EITHER **breadth** or **depth** of content, or a balance between the two.

Breadth **MIGHT** be gained by linking to areas of science (biology, chemistry, physics, evolution, conservation, etc.) or links to other disciplines (geology, ecology, history, etc).

Depth is likely to be in terms of a detailed focus on your main topic, which COULD include such elements as culturing live specimens, taxonomy or habitat associations etc.

Clearly, when judging content the judges will take into account the age of the presenter. Older children, for example, are likely to have researched their topic, and to have a more creative and evaluative response than younger children, who may just want to talk about some insects that interest them.

4. Presentation skills

Delivery:

Here we mean the way the presenter speaks: do they speak clearly and confidently? Is there (for older presenters) over-reliance on notes? For the older presenters we would expect fluency in their talk, with some awareness of the audience, eye contact and good clear responses to questions at the end.

Structure and time:

Here the judges will want to see that children can talk within the maximum time limit given below, and that their talk is planned. For younger children this may be a very loose structure, older presenters will provide a clear beginning, middle and end.

Audience engagement:

Children will be judged on their ability to use their voice, body, any visual aids and the available space to engage the audience in their presentation. There is NO OBLIGATION to use supporting material at all, but where it is used, we would hope that any visual aids will be well chosen to enhance the audience's experience, and will be integrated with confidence into the talk. The younger children may simply want to build their talk around an object of interest; older presenters may like to bring models, photographs, PowerPoint, poster boards, or any other visual aid.

TIME LIMIT

There will be a time limit for all presentations, as follows:

9 & under	4 minutes maximum
10-13	6 minutes maximum
14-18	10 minutes maximum

PROCEDURE

Presenters will give their talks in the order in which their booking forms were received, as far as possible. A gentle reminder will be given one minute before the end of their allotted time in order to help children keep to time.

All contestants will be asked questions by the judges at the end of their presentation, and will be given a feedback sheet at the end of the day. Feedback will consist of comments from judges and no specific grade will be given.

Prizes will be given at the end of the day, and of course the judges' decision is final.

EQUIPMENT

We will make every effort to ensure that any equipment requested functions smoothly. It is your responsibility to make sure that any media you bring (e.g. PowerPoint slides) are compatible with Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 and Windows XP.

However, please be aware that technical equipment does occasionally go wrong, even on the most important occasions. Sometimes this adds a bit of spice to an event!