



UK Junior Water Prize

About the competition

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CIWEM is the leading independent Chartered professional body for water and environmental professionals, promoting excellence within the sector.

We need water fixes!

Without water we die. So it's kind of important! But here's the thing, water related threats are on the rise. In 2019 water crises were ranked the fourth highest global impact risk by the World Economic Forumⁱ.

Just some of the water related threats we face are:

- Climate change impacting on availability and quality
- Increasing frequency of extreme weather events like flooding and droughts
- Declining ecosystems resulting in reduced water filtration
- Infection of water increasing spread of diseases
- Lack of access to clean water and washing and toilet facilities
- Rising water demand against a backdrop of growing scarcity, and
- Conflict over cross boundary water sourcesⁱⁱ.

These resource and social issues all have a negative impact on humanity, so we need to put our heads together to create water fixes.



UKJWP: Your chance to make a difference

The UK Junior Water Prize (UKJWP) is a competition aimed at solving environmental challenges with a link to water, which we know is super important for our future!

For the competition, students need to identify an issue and undertake some research and experiments to find a practical and innovative solution. A write up of this work can then be entered into the UKJWP.

The UKJWP is run by the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) in partnership with the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), who run the international round of the competition called the Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP).

Students' written UKJWP entries are assessed by a specialist panel, with the finalists being invited to a judging day at The Big Bang Fairⁱⁱⁱ in Birmingham.

The UKJWP winner receives an expenses paid trip to Stockholm during World Water Week^{iv}, where they get to represent the UK in the SJWP!

SJWP: The global level competition

The SJWP^Y is an internationally renowned competition which over 30 countries take part in!

Winning the UKJWP unlocks the opportunity to compete on this global stage. Visiting Stockholm for the SJWP is an **amazing** experience that involves meeting the Patron of the SJWP, H.R.H Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, experiencing the culture of Stockholm, learning about work paths that can support your passion for water as you plan for your exciting future and, of course, making lots of new friends!

The winner of the SJWP gets USD 15,000! As well as a blue crystal prize sculpture and a diploma!

The winning school is awarded a diploma and USD 5,000.

The first runner up receives a diploma of excellence and USD 3,000.



You're eligible if...

- ✓ You're going to be between 15 and 20 years of age for World Water Week in August 2020
- ✓ You haven't started University yet
- ✓ You started your project whilst you were at school
- ✓ Your school or college is in the UK.

All individuals involved need to meet the above eligibility criteria.

You can choose to enter an individual project, or you can work in a pair.



You should definitely take part!

Participating in this competition will help you improve lots of skills you need for later life:

- Self-motivation and time management (UKJWP would be a great example to add to applications for university, apprenticeships or professional jobs)
- Ability to identify and understand local, national and global issues
- Ability to carry out independent research
- Formal writing style and report design, and
- Oral presentation skills.

These are really useful skills to have both for the remainder of your school career but also for your future studies and your working career. But don't just take our word for it! You can find out some more information on previous participants on our website -

<https://www.ciwem.org/awards/uk-junior-water-prize>.

What a great project includes

Your project will be judged against others, so make sure you've included all of the information needed to make yours stand out!

As a starter, make sure you've included:

- ✓ **A relevant issue**- all areas of water can be investigated but once you've hit on an unresolved problem that sparks your interest explain it well.
- ✓ **Great subject knowledge**- Show that you understand the wider picture by providing background information and references. You should consider technological, scientific, social and environmental factors.
- ✓ **Experiment results**- what experiments did you do after your research? Make sure you've told us about what you did, why you did it, what you found, and what you think of the findings!
- ✓ **A practical solution**- projects need to suggest a way to solve the identified issue, in a way that is both innovative and achievable.
- ✓ **Benefits explanation**- explain why your project is significant for improving people's quality of life and the environment.



To get top marks study the detailed [judging criteria](#) published separately and aim to address as many of the points as possible!

The judging criteria is split into 6 categories:

1. Relevance
2. Creativity
3. Methodology
4. Subject knowledge
5. Practical Skills, and
6. Report and Presentation.

How to present your (genius) work

For this competition your work needs to be presented as an academic written report, of no more than 20 pages. This is a good opportunity to practice writing in this style which will be useful for your wider studies.

We've published separate [guidance on writing your project](#) to give you all the detail you need.

However, to give you an idea of the structure you need to follow, here is a quick overview:

1. Title page
2. Preliminary matters- abstract (summary), table of contents, key words list, abbreviations and acronyms list, and acknowledgements
3. Introduction
4. Materials and methods
5. Results
6. Discussion
7. Conclusions
8. References- you might not have done this before, don't worry our guidance explains everything you need to know about how to write up your list of reading sources.



This can seem quite daunting! But using this structure will help you set out your work clearly, giving it the best chance of success.

Don't forget that creativity is a factor for the judging criteria, so within this structure there's definitely room to have some fun!





Finding support

Teachers

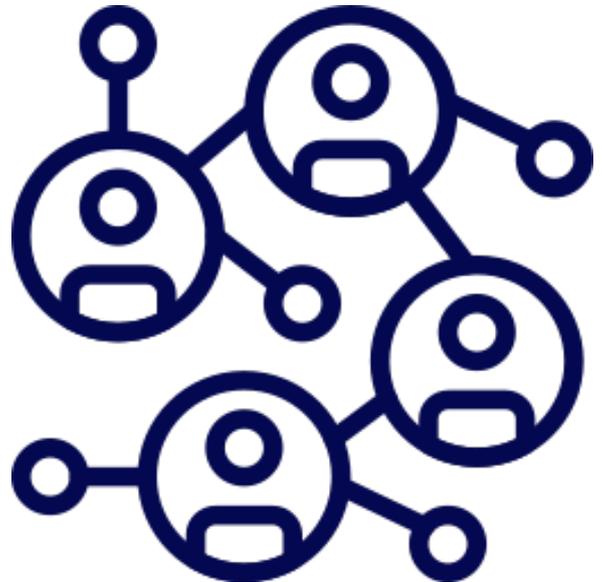
Water issues link in with the work you'll be doing in school in several ways:

- **Geography**- you'll be learning about hydrology, how human activity relies on effective functioning of natural systems and the impacts of climate change.
- **Textiles**- you might learn about different fabrics you can work with. Why not think about how they are produced? For example, whether water is used in growing/ extracting and processing raw materials. Whether natural or synthetic dyes are used and how water used in the dyeing process is disposed of.
- **Science**- water may link into work you do looking at ecosystems and plant growth in biology. Water quality and processing may link into your work in chemistry.
- **Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE) and general studies**- Health and inequality are both big issues that link to access to water and sanitation. Could you think about how lack of access to these might impact peoples' health and wellbeing?
- **Design and Technology**- You could use this project to investigate new technologies, build prototypes using the range of skills you've learnt and show that you understand how design and technology can impact on society and the environment.

With lots of links into the national curriculum, try mentioning this competition to your teachers and having a conversation about the issues you have discovered and what you might be covering in class that links to them.

After school clubs

With such a lot to learn in class time you might be left with unanswered water questions. One way to find out more is to join an appropriate after school club where you can do some further research and have the opportunity to talk about your thoughts with other likeminded students.



Family and friends

Talk to those you're closest to. They may help you work out how to balance your time and fit the competition into your routine.

Working on your project regularly is a good way to develop discipline, make steady progress and avoid a last-minute rush when you might be tempted to give up.

Telling those you're close to about your project will help keep you motivated as they're likely to regularly ask you how you're getting on. Potentially annoying- but oh so helpful!

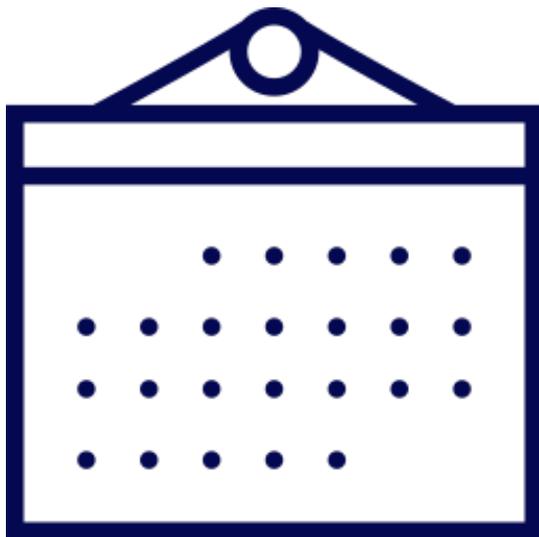


Online resources

There are lots of useful printed and online resources to help you develop your knowledge and skills. Here are a few examples:

- The Environment magazine published by CIWEM^{vi} (if you'd like a copy please contact us)
- National Geographic magazine^{vii}
- Water: Addressing the Global Crisis SDG Academy short course^{viii}
- BBC Radio 4 New Years Solutions: Water^{ix}
- BBC One Blue Planet II^x.





Dates for your diary

The deadline for entries is 5pm on Monday 3rd February 2020. Pop it in your diary now! And why not add in some interim target deadlines for good measure?

The shortlisted projects will be judged on Friday 13th March 2020 in Birmingham. Fingers crossed you'll be invited.

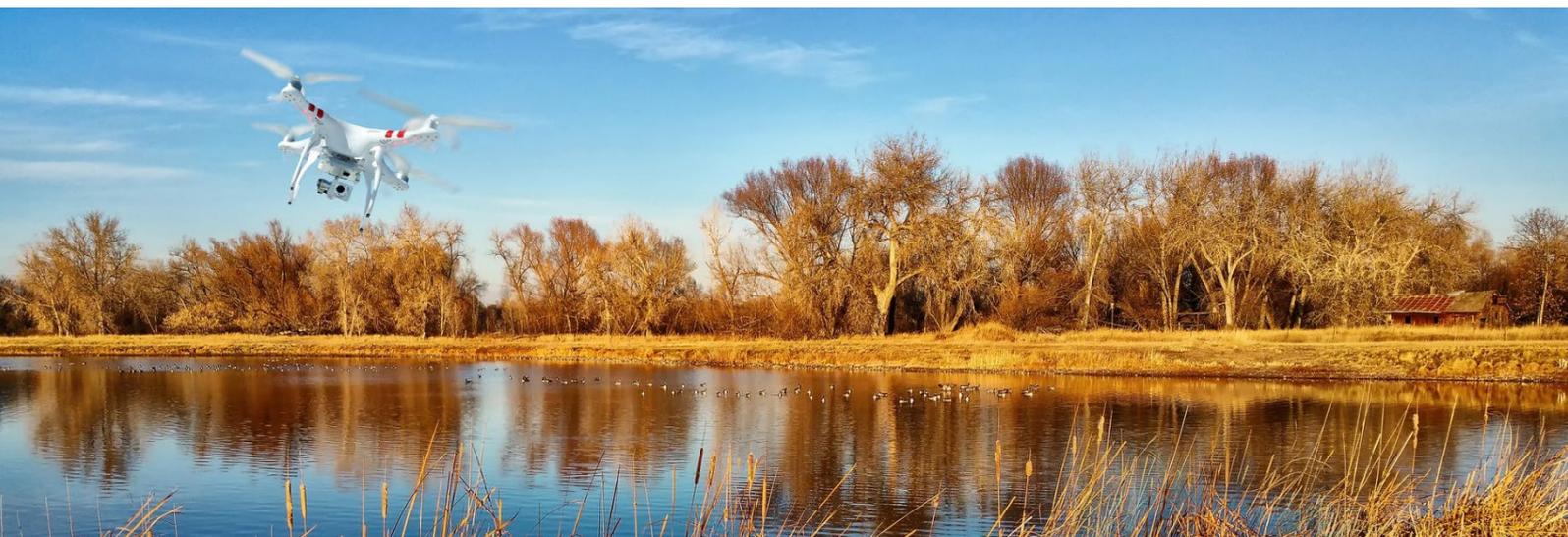
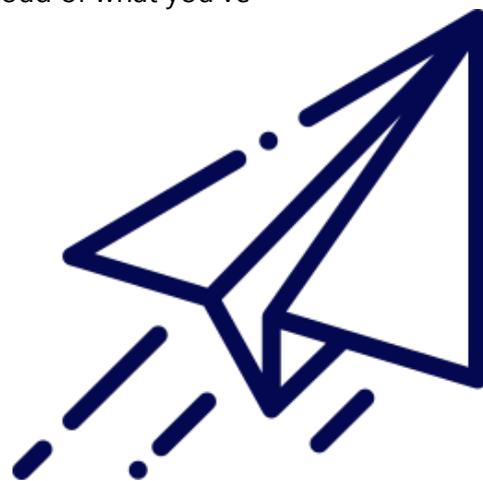
It's ready! Submit your entry

So you've worked super hard to produce a report that meets the [judging criteria](#) and is set out in the [format required](#)- congratulations! You should feel really proud of what you've already achieved.

To enter your project into the UK Junior Water Prize competition you will need to:

1. Download and complete the entry form, which can be found at www.ciwem.org/uk-junior-water-prize/. The form needs a little bit of input from one of your teachers and a parent, so don't leave it to the last minute!
2. Attach your form and your written report to an email and send it to victoria.harris@ciwem.org. Please use 'UK Junior Water Prize' as the subject to help us spot your entry easily.

That's it! We think it's easy but if you have any trouble at all send us an email.





Could you be our winner?

Once you've entered your project report it'll be assessed by our specialist panel of judges.

They'll choose a small number of projects to be presented at a judging day. If yours gets chosen, you'll have the opportunity to go to The Big Bang Fair in Birmingham to present your project to the judges, as well as meet the other UK finalists and learn about their projects. If you are under 18 you will need to bring an adult with you, this could be a teacher, parent or guardian.

For the judging day, you'll be asked to bring a printed copy of your project report and a small project poster. Props to help you explain your project are also welcome, please let us know what you are planning to bring in advance so we can allocate you enough space

By the end of the day the judges will have reached a collective decision on the winning project, which they will announce that day!

As a reminder **the UKJWP winner receives an expenses paid trip to Stockholm during World Water Week, where they get to represent the UK in the SJWP!**

Whilst we know there can only be one winner, we really do wish you the best of luck in developing an awesome project to be proud of and doing well in the competition!

Get started today!

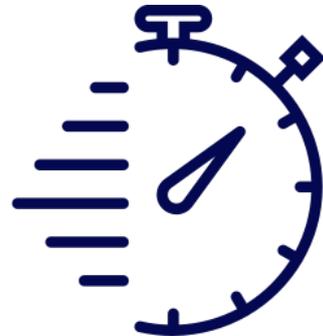
Hopefully you now know everything you want to about the competition, as well as having access to the [judging criteria](#) and [report guidance](#) you'll need later on.

So there's only one thing left to do- get started!

What three steps will you take to get started today? They could be as simple as talking to a parent or teacher, reading a water article, or looking at the further guidance. Write your first steps below:

1. First, I will...
2. Then I'll...
3. I will also...

Follow your steps and you'll be off to a flying start!



We really hope we'll see an entry from you soon. There are so many water issues that need brilliant solutions and we're sure you can help!



References and Credits

ⁱ <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-risks-report-2019>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.unwater.org/water-facts/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.thebigbangfair.co.uk/>

^{iv} <http://www.worldwaterweek.org/>

^v <https://www.siwi.org/prizes/stockholmjuniorwaterprize/>

^{vi} <https://www.ciwem.org/the-environment/>

^{vii} <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

^{viii} <https://sdgacademy.org/course/water-addressing-global-crisis/>

^{ix} <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0001v10>

^x <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04tjbtx>

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SJWP ceremony image [Jonas Borg](#).

UKJWP competition image [CIWEM](#).

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