UK Junior Water Prize

2020 Judging criteria
Once you’ve submitted your project report it will be judged by a specialist panel.

The panel will shortlist a few projects, the authors of which will be invited to a judging final. This year the final will be held at The Big Bang Fair in Birmingham. Those attending will be asked to prepare a poster for the day and may also bring props to help explain their project. Full details of the judging day will be provided to those who are shortlisted.

Your project will be judged on the following criteria so use the information below to help you when preparing your report.

CIWEM is the leading independent Chartered professional body for water and environmental professionals, promoting excellence within the sector.
Relevance
Relevance in terms of science, the environment, and society:
• Does the project target an important challenge in the water environment?
• Is the project scientifically relevant? Can the scientific level be related to basic, applied research and can the results be directly applied or implemented?
• Can the project contribute to the improvement of the quality of environment and/or people’s quality of life?
• Does the project propose innovative solutions to unsolved problems?
• Does the project increase the awareness on water issues?
• Does the project integrate environmental and societal issues?

Creativity
Does the project show creativity in relation to:
• Posing a problem
• Solving a problem
• Analysing the data
• Experimenting or investigating
• Mediating and making the affected parties aware of the problem?

Methodology
• Is there a clearly defined idea on which a result can be achieved?
• Is the problem well defined?
• In what way has the methodology been limited?
• Has the work been planned accordingly?
• Is there adequate information upon which to draw conclusions?
• Have possible misinterpretations of the data been taken into consideration?
• Are there any new questions or suggestions for continued research?

Subject Knowledge
• Is the student familiar with literature and ongoing research in the field?
• What sources has the work been based on?
• Is the list of references satisfactory? Have the references really been studied?
• To what extent have sources of popular science been consulted?
• Is the author familiar with the topic dealt with in his/her work?
• Is the author knowledgeable of ongoing research and terminology in the field?
• Is the author familiar with alternative solutions?
Practical Skills

- Did the student make the exhibit him or herself?
- Did he/she carry out the measurements, etc.?
- What help was provided by parents, teachers, professionals, etc.?
- Did the student take advantage of materials available in school?
- Where did the student obtain the equipment for the exhibit? Was it self-made?
- How well have available techniques been used?

Report and Presentation

- Can the student present the work in a proper and informative way (written, verbally, and graphically through the exhibit)?
- Is the content of the work well structured?
- Are the level of text, illustrations, diagrams, and language in the written report sufficient?
- Is the display visually appealing, are there any special qualities or personal touches?
- Is there a relationship between the display and text material?

If there is anything in these judging criteria that you don’t understand, ask your teacher or contact CIWEM for help. Your written report could easily be considered university level work, so don’t be afraid to ask! For tips on how to present your work see our separate guidance.

If you would like to discuss the competition or your entry please contact Vicky Harris, CIWEM Publications Manager on victoria.harris@ciwem.org.

Good luck!
References

1 https://www.thebigbangfair.co.uk/