

ReelLIFE SCIENCE: How To Take Part

Making videos is fun! The aim of this guide is to help you produce a short science video in a few simple steps...



Step 1: Choosing your topic

We've selected eight different science and technology themes for you to choose from below (click the links in red for more information):

- [Healing the Body, in association with CÚRAM](#)
- How Things Work
- Myths Busted!
- Our Amazing Planet
- Science and Me
- Science Heroes
- Science in Space
- The Power of STEM

Discuss the topics with the group to see what sparks some interest. Maybe you've always wanted to find out how DNA is used to solve crimes, why we crave foods that are not healthy for us, or who discovered penicillin. Perhaps you know someone whose life has been changed by advances in science, technology or medicine or somebody working in those areas.

Any aspect of the competition topics may be communicated by your video – so **be creative and original!** Don't try to cover too much! Use this handy **ReelLIFE SCIENCE brainstorm sheet** (Appendix 1 below) to explore your chosen topic to find a manageable subject for your video. You only have **3 minutes** to communicate a topic, so perhaps pick one aspect of the chosen topic and tell a story!

Our friends in the CÚRAM Research Centre have provided **additional information** about their research into Medical Devices, which may inspire you to explore these particular topics.



Step 2: Choosing your Style

Next, you'll want to decide how your video will look and feel. Will it be filmed or animated? Humorous or more serious? Will it take the form of a demonstration, an interview or even a song? What's the best way of getting the information across to the viewer in a fun way?

Remember you have the advantage of using a **visual medium**, so feel free to dress up, draw, demonstrate, animate, sing, play, experiment, interview, visit a local site, build, recruit friends, family or whatever you need to tell your story. Using a **storyboard** (Appendix 2 below) can be a great idea, to plan what will be seen at all stages of the film.

If this is your first time making a video, you'll probably want to **keep it simple** – you could even film the entire video in one take on a smartphone, so you don't even need to edit clips together.



Step 3: Making your Video

Film the video using whatever **camera** you are most comfortable with, whether it's a camcorder, digital camera, tablet or smartphone. Just make sure you film it in **landscape (sideways) orientation**, rather than portrait, so it looks well on the screen.

If you are using a tablet or smartphone, you can simply use its **video editing software** to join your clips together, add music, credits or even a voiceover. If you use a camcorder or digital camera, you will need to upload your video to a computer, which will come with its own editing software or you can search online for a free software package to use.

Getting the sound right can be one of the most challenging parts of film-making.

Sound quality can often be poor if filming outdoors, particularly on windy days, and can negatively impact otherwise excellent video footage. If you think the sound quality is poor or inaudible, consider recording a separate voiceover indoors using your video camera or phone voice recorder and adding it to the video afterwards. Videos can be made in English, Irish or even using Sign Language, although you may wish to consider including English subtitles to appeal to a wider audience, particularly internationally.

If you prefer, you can submit an **animated video**. There are lots of free animation software packages online, or you could use stop-motion techniques to animate modelling clay, toys, puppets or images/drawings. We don't recommend the use of slideshow-type videos, where images are shown with a voiceover, as we favour original video footage to communicate a topic.

Make sure everything in the video has been created by you!

You cannot use any **copyrighted material** in your film without permission, such as video clips (TV, movies, online videos), music, sound recordings, etc. YouTube, where the video will be hosted online, may even remove the audio track or the entire video, if copyrighted material is detected by its software. For more on YouTube's Copyright policy, [read here](#). You can find lots of '**royalty free music**' online (e.g. [this article](#)) for your video or you may even like to compose an original piece of music.

Remember to keep the **video length between one and three minutes** as longer videos will be penalised during judging. This is where the use of a storyboard in the planning phase can really help!

Get **parental consent** for any children identified, appearing or participating in the video, ensuring that parents or guardians are fully aware of the nature of the competition, and the subsequent use and display (including online and at public screenings) of the video entries by ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway, our partners and potentially the media and general public (e.g. sharing the videos via Facebook, Twitter, etc.).



Step 4: Submitting your Video

To submit your video to ReelLIFE SCIENCE, you will need to upload it to YouTube and send us the link via our online Application Form ([form for schools](#); [form for groups/clubs](#)) before the submission deadline of **October 19th 2018**. You can read about ReelLIFE SCIENCE's Data Protection Policy in Appendix 3 below

It is important to note that **Video Privacy Settings should be set to 'Public'** so your video can be viewed by our judges and the general public. You can find lots of information in the [YouTube Help Centre](#) about [privacy settings](#), [how to upload videos](#), [supported file formats](#), etc. After judging, you are free to remove your video from YouTube if you wish.

Click the **'Parental Consent received'** tickbox, to acknowledge that consent has been received for all necessary participants, as outlined above. Completed consent forms do not need to be submitted to ReelLIFE SCIENCE, but to complete the application process you must acknowledge that, where required, they have been completed and received.

Click the **'Agree to Terms & Conditions'** tickbox, to acknowledge that you have read and agree to the competition [Terms and Conditions](#) (Appendix 4 below).

After you click submit, you should receive an acknowledgement message sent to the email address you have provided. After the competition, all participants will receive a **Certificate of Participation** to download and print and a **ReelLIFE SCIENCE Digital Badge** issued by NUI Galway's Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching.

Winning videos will be announced during [Science Week 2018](#), and you can keep up-to-date via our [Twitter \(@ReelLifeScience\)](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

Appendix 1: Brainstorming Sheet

Q1. What will your video be about?

Topic Ideas:

Healing the Body

How Things Work

Myths Busted!

Our Amazing Planet

Science and Me

Science Heroes

Science in Space

The Power of STEM

Q2. How will your video look and sound?

Examples:

Live Action

Animated

Humorous

Serious

Demonstration

Interview

Performance

Science Song

Indoors

On Location

Q3. What do you need to make it happen?

Examples:

Storyboard

Camera (video camera/smartphone/tablet)

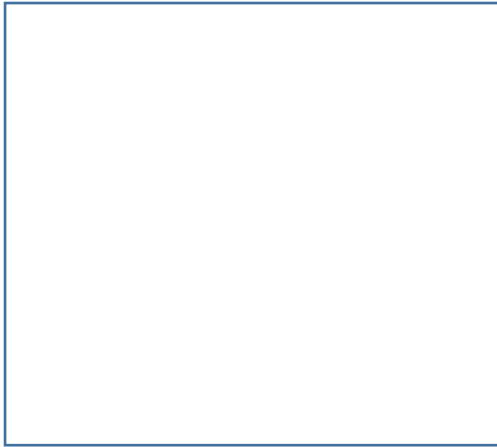
Microphone (be careful outdoors)

Props/Costumes

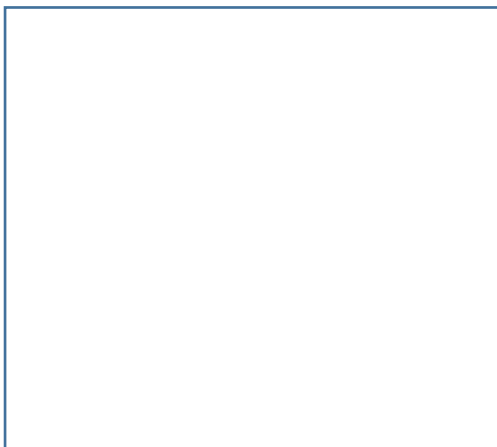
Royalty Free Music

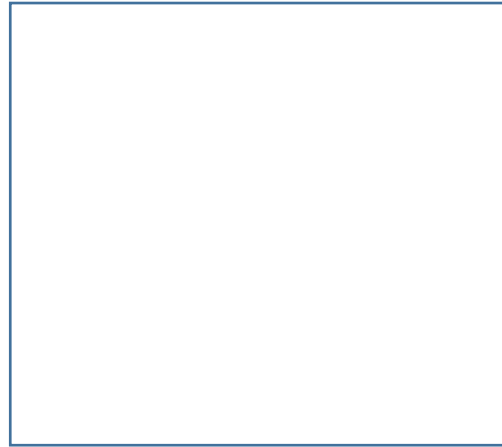
Parental Consent

Appendix 2: VIDEO STORYBOARD

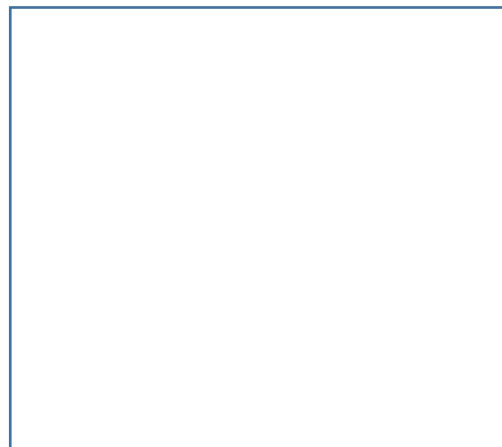












Appendix 3: ReelLIFE SCIENCE Data Protection Policy

Updated 07/09/2018

ReelLIFE SCIENCE Data Protection Policy

ReelLIFE SCIENCE fully respects your right to privacy, and will not collect any personal information about you without your express permission.

Any personal information which you communicate to the ReelLIFE SCIENCE programme will be treated with the highest standards of security and confidentiality, strictly in accordance with the Data Protection Acts, 1988 & 2003. The [General Data Protection Regulation](#) (GDPR) is taking effect in Europe on the 25th of May 2018. The GDPR improves transparency and the data privacy rights of individuals. This page explains how our data protection policy aligns with the GDPR Act 2018.

COLLECTION AND USE OF DATA

- ReelLIFE SCIENCE does not collect any personal data about you, apart from information which you communicate to us (e.g. via the ReelLIFE SCIENCE online application form).
- While information pertaining to videos submitted (video name, school level, YouTube link, video language) is emailed to volunteer and special guest judges for the purpose of judging the videos, ReelLIFE SCIENCE does not make any personal information available to any third parties.
- Your information is used by ReelLIFE SCIENCE only for the purpose for which you provided it. Your information is retained only for as long as it is necessary for that purpose.
- Our processes may include appropriate anonymisation of personal data after a defined period, if there is a need to retain non-personal data, e.g. for statistical purposes.

YOUR RIGHT REGARDING DATA SUPPLIED

- You have a right under Freedom of Information legislation to be given a copy of your personal data which you may have supplied to ReelLIFE SCIENCE.

- If you discover that ReelLIFE SCIENCE holds inaccurate information about you, you have a right to instruct ReelLIFE SCIENCE to correct that information.
- In certain circumstances you may also request that data which you have supplied be deleted, e.g. if the purpose for which you provided it has ceased.

RECORDS HELD INCLUDE

- Full list of schools in Ireland, provided by the Dept. of Education, including: official school name, roll number, address, email address and phone number.
- List of previous participants' email addresses provided during application process in past years.
- List of teachers (including name, school, email address) interested in participating in ReelLIFE SCIENCE, provided at events such as the Irish Science Teacher Association Annual Conference.
- Information provided by school participants via the online application form, including: school name, level, roll number, address, website, Twitter name; teacher name, email address, phone number; number of students involved; video name, YouTube link and language.
- Information provided by community group participants via the online application form, including: community group or club name, address, website, Twitter name; contact name, email address, phone number; number of individuals involved; video name, YouTube link and language.
- Online application forms are hosted by EmailMeForm.com and data submitted is encrypted. You can read information about their GDPR Compliance at: <https://www.emailmeform.com/blog/emailmeform-gdpr-compliance.html>.
- Volunteers' names, gender and email addresses.
- Audience breakdown (adult/child and male/female) at public screening events e.g. Galway Science and Technology Festival, captured by volunteers.

For more information on Data Protection and Freedom of Information legislation, visit:

<http://www.dataprotection.ie> OR <http://www.foi.gov.ie/>

Appendix 4: Terms & Conditions

Updated 03/09/2018

1. The ReelLIFE SCIENCE video competition is organised by a group of science staff and students from NUI Galway to promote science and science communication in Irish primary and secondary schools, community groups and clubs.
2. The competition is open for entries from primary and secondary schools students or groups of students or members of community groups or clubs. Multiple entries will be accepted but will require separate applications forms to be completed.
3. Entries will only be accepted via the online Application Form ([form for schools](#); [form for groups/clubs](#)). Entry to the competition is free of charge.
4. ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway and our supporters and partners will not be responsible for lost or late video entries or attempted entries or for internet, computer hardware and software, and/or any other technical errors, or delays that may prevent entry to the competition before the stated deadline. It is the responsibility of the entrant to submit the video in time and in compliance with the rules of the competition.
5. Entrants agree that ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway and our supporters and partners will not be liable for any loss or injury resulting from participation in the competition or subsequent acceptance or prize(s).
6. Entrants agree that ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway and our supporters and partners will not be liable in any way for any false claims, inaccuracies, copyrighted or illegal content contained in your video or in associated information links or external websites.
7. The competition runs from January 1st 2018 and the deadline for submission of videos is October 19th 2018. Late entries will not be considered.

8. Video entries produced in either the English or Irish language will be accepted and all videos will be considered equally.
9. Video entries should be between 1 and 3 minutes in duration. Longer videos will be penalised during judging, or may not be considered.
10. Video entries considered offensive will not be considered.
11. Video entries should be based on one of the following topics: Healing the Body; How Things Work; Myths Busted!; Our Amazing Planet; Science and Me; Science Heroes; Science in Space; The Power of STEM.
12. Winning videos will be announced during the week beginning November 11th 2018.
13. Prizewinning videos will be selected by an independent panel of special guest judges who will be sent links to the videos for the purpose of judging. The judges' decision is final in all matters.
14. Contact details (telephone numbers and email addresses) provided in the application form may be used to directly contact video makers in the event of their video being shortlisted for a prize. Email addresses provided may be used to contact participants with a list of prizewinners and to invite participation in subsequent ReelLIFE SCIENCE competitions. Participants can opt out of these occasional mailings at any time.
15. ReelLIFE SCIENCE may request a copy of the original video file (to upload to ReelLIFE SCIENCE's own YouTube channel and for public screenings) should the video be shortlisted or required for another reason.
16. The makers of the winning (i) community group/club, (ii) primary and (iii) secondary school videos, will each receive €1000 for their school, club or community group. At each level, the makers of the 2nd- and 3rd-placed videos will receive €500 and €200, respectively. Prizes will be payable to the school, group or club as submitted on the application form.

17. Prizewinners agree to participate in such reasonable publicity as may be requested by ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway and our supporters and partners. Prizewinners will be announced on the ReelLIFE SCIENCE website and via an NUI Galway-issued press release, listing school and individual names, where provided.
18. Prizewinners will be invited to the Galway Science and Technology Festival on Sunday November 25th in NUI Galway, to receive their prizes and view their videos on display to the general public. ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway and our supporters and partners will not be responsible for prizewinners' accommodation, transport to the event, etc. Prizewinners who are not able to attend the event, will receive their prizes at a later date.
19. Video content should be original and copyrighted material (such as video clips (e.g. TV, movies, online videos), sound recordings, musical compositions etc.) must not be used in the video entries.
20. It is the responsibility of the video makers to obtain all necessary permissions and releases from all persons (including parental consent from the parent/guardian of any children) appearing or identified in the video or any associated photos/still images, ensuring they are fully aware of the nature of the competition and subsequent use and display (including online and at public screenings) of the video entries by ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway, our supporters and partners and potentially the media and general public (e.g. sharing the YouTube video links via Twitter, Facebook etc.).
21. By submitting your video into this competition, you hereby grant to ReelLIFE SCIENCE, NUI Galway and supporters and partners, the royalty-free, non-exclusive right to publish, broadcast, transmit and distribute content of the video, and/or elements embodied within the video, in whole or in part.
22. ReelLIFE SCIENCE reserves the right to modify or vary the terms and conditions at any time.
23. By submitting your video you agree to the above terms and conditions.