OCEAN LOVERS

FESTIVAL

Fish Tank Juniors - Competition Guidelines

Fish Tank Juniors is a competition for primary school students designed to inspire, engage, and empower young minds to tackle problems affecting the ocean.

We are fishing for the next generation of creative ideas by providing a platform for students to share their innovative solutions for promoting ocean health.

Our mission is to inspire and encourage young people to become innovators, empowering them to take the lead in solving real-world problems. By offering students a unique opportunity to contribute to one of the greatest environmental challenges of our time – protecting our ocean – we aim to harness their creativity and passion, giving them the tools to develop their own ideas for a healthier planet and turn ripples of action into waves of change.

This exciting challenge educates students about the impact of human activities on marine ecosystems, while fostering innovation, teamwork, and environmental awareness in a fun and engaging way!

Objectives

1. **Educate** students on ocean conservation, the effects of human activities on marine ecosystems, and the importance of sustainable living.
2. **Encourage** innovative thinking to address real-world challenges.
3. **Promote** eco-friendly ideas that can be shared with the broader community.
4. **Develop** skills in research, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration.

Prizes

Winners will share in a $500 prize pool, with additional prizes available. The prize money will be divided into three categories:
- Prize Winner (Years K-4): $200 and a certificate
- Prize Winner (Years 5 & 6): $200 and a certificate
- People's Choice Winner: $100 and a certificate

Winners will have their ideas showcased on our Ocean Lovers Platforms, and selected finalists may be invited to present their ideas live on stage at the Ocean Lovers Festival on March 23, 2025. Additional presentation opportunities may also be available, and finalists will be notified via email if chosen for these events.

Competition Categories

Students can choose from the following categories to submit their ideas:

1. **Reduce Ocean Pollution**
   Think of ways to stop waste, especially plastics, from entering the ocean. You could come up with new ways to manage trash, fun recycling ideas, or ways to use less plastic.
2. **Clean Up Our Ocean**
   Come up with solutions to clean up pollution already in the ocean. This could be an invention, a clean-up program, or even a campaign to get people in your community involved.
3. **Marine Wildlife Protection**
   Design ways to keep sea creatures safe from dangers like fishing nets, plastic pollution, and other environmental threats.
4. **Sustainable Ocean Use**
   Share ideas for using the ocean in a way that helps protect the environment. This could be better fishing practices or ways to avoid harmful chemicals in industries related to the ocean.

💡 **Brainstorming Tips**:
- Start by thinking about the problems you see in your school, community, or home. What do you notice that might be harming the ocean, and how could you make a difference?
- Look for inspiration from books, websites, documentaries, or even by talking to a parent, teacher, or local expert. You could come up with ideas that can be used to improve your school or community!

Key Dates

- **Entries Open**: Monday October 14, 2024
- **Submission Deadline**: February 28, 2025
- **Judging Period**: February 28 – March 7, 2025
- **Selected finalist notified** – March 10, 2025
- **Winners Announced**: March 22 & 23, 2025 at the Ocean Lovers Festival Bondi Beach

How to Enter

1. **Register here**
    Sign up as either an individual or a group.

2. **Choose a category**
    Pick one of the four competition categories: Reduce Ocean Pollution, Clean Up Our Ocean, Marine Wildlife Protection, or Sustainable Ocean Use.

3. **Research your idea**
    Learn about ocean problems and come up with ideas to solve them. You can use books, websites, or ask a teacher or someone in your community for help.

4. **Your message for the ocean (written)**
    Tell us in a sentence or short paragraph why caring for the ocean is important to you. This is your personal message for the ocean.

5. **Explain your idea (written)**
    Tell us all about your idea in one page or less – how it works and how it will help the ocean. Explain how your idea will make a positive difference.

6. **Create a visual presentation**
    Now it's time to show us your idea! You can choose one or more of these ways to present it:
    - **Artwork**: Make a colourful poster or picture showing your idea and how it works.
    - **Video Presentation**: Record a 2-3 minute video explaining or showing your idea.
    - **3D Model**: Build a model to bring your idea to life!

Submission Details

Fill in the submission form here
Due Date: February 28, 2025

Attachments:
Please ensure your submission includes ALL of the following components. The submission is only valid if all parts are submitted:
1. **Written Submission (PDF):** Combine both written sections into one PDF document with clearly labelled headings.
2. **Visual Presentation:** Upload your visual component.
    - For video submissions, please upload the video via WeTransfer, you will need the link for the submission form.
    - If submitting a video, you must also sign and submit a photo release permission form.

PLEASE NOTE

If you are a teacher with multiple entries (e.g., you have multiple groups and/or multiple individual student entries), please note each entry requires a SEPARATE submission form.

If you are submitting a GROUP entry WITH A VIDEO, please ensure you include a photo release permission form for EACH child in the video. These should be combined into ONE PDF document.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
1. **Creativity** – How original and imaginative is the idea?
2. **Feasibility** – Is the idea practical and realistic?
3. **Eco-friendliness** – Does the idea promote sustainability and protect the ocean environment?
4. **Impact** – How much positive change could the idea create?
5. **Presentation** – Is the idea communicated clearly and effectively?