



Week 1: 78 participants

"they've already won anyway as they had so much fun. Thanks"

Thanks Laurie- well keep our eyes open for that one on Monday!

"Many thanks running the competition. It has been all consuming today and great fun."

"Thanks a million Laurie. I have shared this with my class and encouraged them all to enter each week as part of our work. I really appreciate the ideas as I was starting to run out of inspiration and they love STEM. Can you email the competitions to me each week or do I need to check the twitter page? I don't have twitter!"

"Thanks Laurie, the lads absolutely loved it and I will follow now as I have different age groups kids and this was their favourite and it didn't feel like work so you wouldn't believe they learned meters and centimetres by accident as well, so great bonus!!"

"STEM challenge. Great idea and competition."

"Thanks Laurie, Absolutely - we are looking forward to next week's challenge!"

"X loved entering this - he says he wants to be an engineer so it is right up his street. I never saw him so engaged with any competition before! Thank you for organising this"

"I hope you like it and I'm looking forward to next week's challenge."

"They were delighted to see their long collection of materials for junk art finally being put to use!"



"This was great fun for him to do 😊.Thanks"

"I had so much fun doing this, I can't wait to see what next weeks challenge is."

" X was delighted you wrote to him. He is looking forward to the rest of the challenges
👍👍"

"This fantastic idea kept them occupied for hours today. While I worked they raided the recycle bin and got building! Note the kiwi on top! Please ignore the state of the kitchen as a result of all their fun 🤪"

"Hi Laurie, My kids loved this challenge. Thank you"

"Thanks for the competition we really loved it!!"

"Hi Laurie, Thanks for your reply I really enjoyed building the tower and can't wait for next week!"

"I really enjoyed this challenge."

"Many thanks Laurie they had great fun! We will definitely take part in the next few weeks 😊"

X has so much fun building their pear tower of fun- just over 1 meter tall and lots of crashes to the ground on building . The demolition was almost as fun as the building 😊

Week 2: Entries - 52

"My daughter would like to enter your " egg drop challenge ". She loves science and this as she is a visual learner."

Not to be outdone by her younger brother Who also entered, X from Dublin designed a parachute fRom plastic bags, string and grape cartons for her egg. Much to everyone's relief



Egglanda (She named her) survived the drop!

Thanks to all the team for the challenges - they are great fun, although the kitchen is a collection of boxes!

Hi Laurie,

Thank you for showing us an example to do the egg challenge. Your challenges are very good. I hope we win. Here are our pictures.

Thanks

Thank you for this great competition. We had super fun today. Here is our final egg drop.

We used an egg 🥚, 1 sheet of newspaper, half a plastic bottle, 1 strip of cardboard and a paper bag.

We wrapped the egg in newspaper and placed it in the bottle. We put one strip of cardboard over the egg and attached the handles of the paper bag to the strip. We dropped the egg from the top of our tree house.

Eggsperiment was made by X age 7, X age 5 and Y age 3. Hope ye like it. 🙏

#BackyardScience @ SSPCentre

I am not on twitter but happy for images to be shared. Fingers crossed. 🙏

Kindest Regards

Mum.

We keep bread bag wrappers as toy dinosaur parachutes, so they are reusable in our house, so I hope that counts! In any case, they had so much fun today with the challenge, so thank you for that.

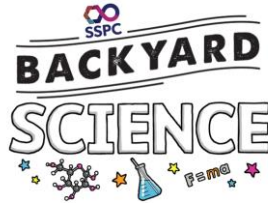
Thanks for another really fun challenge. Please accept this entry

X and Y (8 and 10) had great fun making this container for "bob the egg scientist " and even dropped him from their window and he survived! Thanks for the challenge

Thank you I had sooooo much fun doing it!

Ro

Thank you Laurie, i will be entering every week its very fun



I hope you like my invention to keep my egg safe.

St Fergus NS

Egg drop challenge

We all had great fun these are a few of our creations xxxxxx   

Thanks a million! They are super activities

Sounds great Laurie. She is dying to get the details. It's been a fantastic way to keep them motivated to the end, my own class are absolutely loving it too. Thank you!

Week 3: 35 Entries

Hello Laurie

Please find videos for X to enter the Marble Roller Coaster Challenge. The roller coaster is 5.1 metres.

Great challenge and great fun had!

Thanks

A video of the boy's roller coaster effort. Unfortunately I was gone back into school myself for a few hours when they put this together. They remembered it had to be over a metre and the ball had to land in a container. Nothing else! The photo is just a screen shot from the video as they didnt take any photos and had 'the mess cleaned up' before I got home.

So...enjoy....they did. They had a ball they told me.

entry for the marble run - thank you for occupying another rainy day, they had great fun.. Have a lovely weekend.

Please find attached our rollercoaster. It is 20cm high and 105cm long.
Best of luck with your judging and prizes are amazing. Well done to all great competition (their mum)



Here is X Rollercoaster. She had so much fun making and tweaking it until it worked just right. So good to reuse all the recycling and keep the little hands working and discovering while school has wound down for the year.

Fantastic to have these excellent STEM events to motivate and inspire young minds... well done !

She loved it Laurie , the last submission went to the teacher I think , I probably should have sent it direct ,the egg flying one.
She's had great fun , well done to you guys

Hi Laurie
Will do, it's a good focus for her.
Regards

Week 4: Entries: 35

Thank you for these lovely ideas Laurie. Have been great fun to get the girls trying out during lockdown.

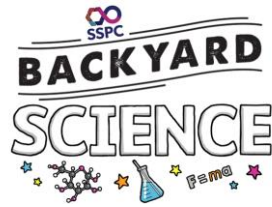
Another less successful experiment from X. Great fun

Thank you so much for giving us a whole lot of entertainment these last few weeks

completed the m&ms experiment using water and coloured m&ms in his school colours, it was great fun and he really enjoyed doing the experiment.

He learned and made an electric circuit using a wire, battery and lightbulb. He designed and made his own lighthouse and used his knowledge from making a simple circuit to have a working light. He is delighted with it.

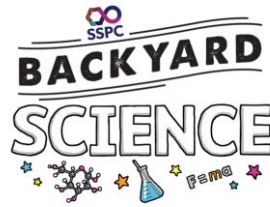
Thanks for all the different challenges. We really enjoyed them.



I'm very sad that this week is the last week, I had a lot of fun! 🤖 😊 thank you!
I made a water dispenser out of cardboard!

Thanks I've had so much fun over the last 4 weeks.

Well done and thank you ! Great initiative 👍



Initial Launch



4 weeks of fun STEM competitions for primary school pupils.



The competitions will begin on the 1st of June.



Each week we will have exciting prizes for our winner.



There will be a 'SSPC Teacher Box' for the class of the winner each week.



Start to gather all your recyclable materials now as they will be really useful for each week!



Week 1 Launch Pictures



WEEK 1: RULES AND HOW TO ENTER!

1. Use recyclable materials to build a tower at least 1 metre tall.
2. You can use tape or glue to hold materials together.
3. Your tower must be able to hold a piece of fruit on top for at least 5 seconds!
4. Competition is open from Monday 1st June - Friday 5th of June @ 12pm
5. Take a picture of you with your tower.
6. Measure the height of your tower.



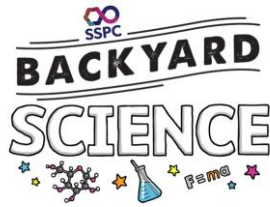
Week 1 - Build a Tower!

GET YOUR HANDS
ON THIS WEEKS
PRIZE!

Send your entry to laurie.ryan@ul.ie to be in with a chance to win this weeks prize!

Your teacher will also win a 'SSPC Surprise Box' for your class!





Week 2 Launch Pictures



WEEK 3: RULES AND HOW TO ENTER!

1. Use recyclable materials to build a rollercoaster at least 1 metre length.
2. You can use tape or glue to hold materials together.
3. Your rollercoaster must be able to get the ball to the end and in to a pot/bin!
4. Competition is open from Monday 15th June - Friday 19th of June @ 12pm
5. Take either pictures or a video of you with your rollercoaster.
6. Measure the height and length of your rollercoaster.



Week 3 - Marble Rollercoaster!

GET YOUR HANDS ON THIS WEEKS PRIZE!

Send your entry to laurie.ryan@ul.ie to be in with a chance to win this weeks prize!

Your teacher will also win a 'SSPC Surprise Box' for your class!

3D PRINTER





Week 3 Launch Pictures



WEEK 2: RULES AND HOW TO ENTER!

1. Use maximum 5 recyclable materials to build a protection for an egg.
2. You can use tape or glue to hold materials together.
3. You must try make sure your egg does not break when dropped from adults height!
4. Competition is open from Monday 8th June - Friday 12th of June @ 12pm
5. Take pictures of how you made your creation.
6. Take a picture of you with your creations after the landing - did the egg survive?

Week 2 - Egg Drop Challenge!

GET YOUR HANDS ON THIS WEEKS PRIZE!

Send your entry to laurie.ryan@ul.ie to be in with a chance to win this weeks prize!

Your teacher will also win a 'SSPC Surprise Box' for your class!



Week 4 Launch Pictures



WEEK 4: RULES AND HOW TO ENTER!

1. Find or research a Science Experiment you can do at home.
2. Gather the equipment you need from around the house.
3. Carry out your experiment and get the results.
4. Competition is open from Monday 22nd June - Friday 26th of June @ 12pm
5. Take a 20 second clip or pictures of your experiment.
6. Enjoy the last competition.

Week 4 - Be a Scientist!

GET YOUR HANDS ON THIS WEEKS PRIZE!

Send your entry to laurie.ryan@ul.ie to be in with a chance to win this weeks prize!

Your teacher will also win a 'SSPC Surprise Box' for your class!





UL Events Sample Email:

Hello everybody,

The Backyard Science challenge for week 3 is called the **Marble Rollercoaster**. Have a look at what we came up with for a little inspiration [here](#)



Rules and how to enter:

1. Use recyclable materials to build a rollercoaster at least 1 meter in length.
2. You can use tape or glue to hold the materials together.
3. Your rollercoaster must be able to get the ball to the end and in to a pot/bin.
4. The competition is open from today, **Monday, June 15 – Friday, June 19 @ 12pm.**
5. Take either pictures or a video of you with your rollercoaster.
6. Measure the height and length of your rollercoaster.
7. Send all entries to laurie.ryan@ul.ie.

Best of luck and hope you have another week of fun!!