GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK COMPETITION

The Geography Teachers’ Association of NSW/ACT (GTA NSW/ACT) organises an annual competition for students and schools to foster an enthusiasm for Geography through engagement and rewards. The emphasis of the competition is the use of fieldwork and the gathering of primary and secondary data as core skills in students’ study of Geography. Teachers are encouraged to use the competition as a form of authentic assessment for their teaching and learning programmes. The competition is open to all primary and secondary schools in NSW and ACT. Entries are welcome from both members and non-members of GTA NSW/ACT.

In 2017, the submission of entries and the prize categories have been updated to better reflect the requirements of the new Australian K–10 Geography Curriculum and the central place that inquiry holds within Geography. Firstly, the categories have been modified to reflect the Australian K–10 Geography content now used in both NSW and ACT. The Brock Rowe Senior Geography Fieldwork Competition will be open to entries of HSC Senior Geography Projects, International Baccalaureate Diploma Geography Internal Assessments or fieldwork based Depth Studies for ACT participants. There will also be a form available on the GTA NSW/ACT website to submit digital entries. Entries must be submitted either by mail or online by Friday 24 November 2017.

Please complete and return a student entry form either by mail or online with all student entries by Friday 24 November 2017.

SECTION 1: NATURE OF THE COMPETITIONS

1. The “Investigating Places” Primary Fieldwork Competition
   Three subcategories: Years K-2, Year 3-4, Years 5-6
   This section is open to Primary Students across NSW and ACT. Entries can be made by individuals, groups or classes.
   • Identify a Geographical inquiry that demonstrates the interaction of People, Places and Environments
   • Undertake fieldwork to gather primary data
   • Support fieldwork with secondary data if required
   • Present research findings

2. The Geographical Fieldwork and Research Competition:
   Five subcategories: Years 5-6, Year 7-8, Year 9-10, Life Skills and Year 11-12
   This section is open to all Geography Students across NSW and ACT. Entries can be made by individuals or groups. Inquiry topics must be clearly relevant to the Australian K-10 Geography Curriculum, the NSW Elective Geography Syllabus or the IB Geography courses at any level. There is an expectation that geospatial technologies will play a role in either the gathering, organising or presentation of student research.
   • Identify a Geographical inquiry topic relevant to any of the Geographical concepts (Place, Space, Environment, Interconnections, Scale, Sustainability, Change) or the Australian cross-curricular priorities (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia or Sustainability)
   • Undertake research using both secondary data and primary fieldwork such as that obtained during interviews, questionnaires or other fieldwork methods.
   • Analyse data gathered
   • Present research findings
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NATURE OF THE COMPETITIONS

3. The Dr Don Biddle Places and Environments Study (Year 9 and 10 only)
   Formerly, this category was targeted towards Year 10 Students completing a Research Action Plan. This will still be the case for 2017, as most NSW Schools are required to complete the old 7–10 Geography Syllabus. However, entries are also open to NSW or ACT schools teaching the Australian K–10 Geography Curriculum content in 2017. Inquiry topics must be relevant to the Year 9 and 10 content. There is an expectation that geospatial technologies will play a role in either the gathering, organising or presentation of student research.
   - Undertake research into a place or environment relevant to the Year 9 and 10 Australian K–10 Geography Curriculum
   - Undertake fieldwork to gather primary data
   - Support fieldwork with secondary data if required
   - Organise and analyse the data gathered
   - Present research findings

4. The Brock Rowe Senior Geography Fieldwork Competition
   This section is open to Senior Geography Students across NSW and ACT. Only individual entries will be accepted. The competition is open to either Senior Geography Projects, International Baccalaureate Geography Internal Assessments or a Depth Study for ACT participants.
   - Undertake an HSC Senior Geography Project, International Baccalaureate Internal Assessment for Geography or ACT Depth Study that uses fieldwork to gather primary data
   - Support fieldwork with secondary data if required
   - Analyse data gathered
   - Present research findings
   - Evaluate the research methodologies used and the ethical aspects of research undertaken

5. The Dr Susan Bliss Cross-Curricular Priority Awards
   The Dr Susan Bliss Awards are available for entries from any category or subcategory that demonstrates significant achievement or development of understanding in any of the three Australian K–10 Geography Curriculum cross-curricular priority areas: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia or Sustainability.

6. The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Civic and Citizenship Awards
   The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Civic and Citizenship Awards are available for entries from any category or subcategory that demonstrate civic action has occurred at either the individual or group level, as a result of the research/fieldwork activity.

7. The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Teacher Awards
   The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Teacher Awards will be allocated to teachers for outstanding involvement in the Geography Fieldwork Competition during 2017.
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SECTION 2: ENTRY INFORMATION

ENTRIES

There are no entry fees for 2017. The fee structure will be revised when the the new Australian K-10 Geography curriculum is fully implemented across NSW by 2018.

Each school can submit up to FOUR (4) entries in each category.

Final date for competition entries to be received Friday 24 November 2017

All postal entries MUST have a Student Entry Form (see over page) fully completed and securely attached to be considered. Make sure the correct section is indicated on the entry form. All packages should be clearly marked as Geography Fieldwork Competition. Entries can be mailed to:

GTA NSW Office (PO Box 699 Lidcombe 1825)

Please contact our office on 9716 0378 prior to delivering entries to the following location:

Lower Ground Floor, COS Building, 25 Nyrang St. Lidcombe

Enquiries via email to the GTA NSW office – gta.admin@ptc.nsw.edu.au

Hardcopy entries may be in a book or loose leaves (with reinforced rings), mounted on cardboard (limit 2 sheets of 65 x 55cm).

All digital entries MUST be submitted as a hyperlink through the online entry form available on the GTA website (https://goo.gl/forms/dhgJiZk5CoV9RSz62). All digital presentation formats, such as videos, web pages and podcasts are welcome. Slide presentations (Such as PowerPoint, Slides or Pages) will have a maximum slide number of 20. It is the responsibility of the student and supervising teacher to ensure hyperlinks are functional and able to be accessed by markers.

No models will be accepted.

All entries will be available for collection at the end of the award ceremony. GTA NSW/ACT is unable to return uncollected entries to schools.

PRIZES:

Prizes will be awarded for the first, second and third place entries each competition category or subcategory where available.

AWARDS:

Awards will be allocated to each category according to marking criteria. The presentation of awards will take place at the Arthur Phillip Awards ceremony in early 2018. Award recipients, their parents and teachers will receive invitations.
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SECTION 3: STUDENT ENTRY FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

This form MUST be fully completed and securely attached to each entry. *(One form per entry – please photocopy)*

EACH SCHOOL CAN SUBMIT UP TO FOUR ENTRIES IN EACH SECTION OR SUB CATEGORY

STUDENT (full name) ..........................................................

SCHOOL ...........................................................................

SCHOOL YEAR/STAGE ....................... TEACHER ..............................

TEACHER EMAIL: ..........................................................

SECTION OF ENTRY: *(Please tick ONE sub category only)*

1. The “Investigating Places” Primary Fieldwork Competition
   ☐ Years K–2 ☐ Years 3–4 ☐ Years 5–6

2. The Geographical Fieldwork and Research Competition
   ☐ Years 5–6 ☐ Years 7–8 ☐ Years 9–10 ☐ Life Skills ☐ Years 11–12

3. The Dr Don Biddle Issues in Australian Environments Fieldwork Competition
   ☐ Years 9 and 10 students only

4. The Brock Rowe Senior Geography Project Fieldwork Competition
   ☐ Preliminary SGP ☐ ACT Depth Study ☐ IB IA

TITLE OF THE PROJECT ..................................................................

SYNOPSIS ............................................................................

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGINALITY

I certify that this is all my original work:

.......................................................... ................................. ............................... ..........................

Student's name  Student's signature  Date

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Teacher's name  Teacher's signature  Date

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS – FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2017