



YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROGRAMME E-NEWSLETTER ISSUE 9

Welcome to our final Young People's Programme e-newsletter of the year, from the BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science). To all our readers, the BA wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Here's what's coming up in 2007...

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1) TRY OUR FREE TRIAL...

Our new project [CREST★Investigators](#) is progressing and the packs will be available from September 2007. The three levels are:

- **Star (KS1)**, comparable to First Investigators
- **Super Star (KS2)**, comparable to Young Investigators (Bronze)
- **Mega Star (KS2)** which features the opportunity to become a Young Science Ambassador, comparable to Young Investigators (Silver & Gold).

The BA is always looking for club leaders to trial the activities in return for filling in a feedback form. If you are interested in receiving free activities to trial, please email sangeeta.dhapp@the-ba.net. During March, there will be a 50% discount on [First](#) and [Young Investigators](#) packs. A further 20% discount on [CREST★Investigators](#) packs will be available throughout the year for existing members.

2) LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

The Young People's Programme team would like to thank all the teachers doing [First Investigators](#) and [Young Investigators](#) who sent in photos to appear on the BA website. We would now like to produce a gallery to showcase secondary schools. So, if you run [Science Communicators](#) Awards or [CREST Awards](#) with your students and have any photos you are willing to share, please email pictures along with accompanying text to ypp@the-ba.net.

Click [here](#) to view our gallery.

3) GET GOING WITH A GRANT

[National Science and Engineering Week](#) will take place from 9-18 March 2007. The [DTI](#) (Department of Trade and Industry) is providing extra funds for schools within the UK to organise their own science and engineering events this year. This [small grant scheme](#) is open to all state schools, with priority going to schools with a high proportion of pupils from either disadvantaged backgrounds or from black and minority ethnic communities. Grants will be up to **£150** per school. The deadline for the applications is **Friday 26th January 2007**.

4) THE FUN OF THE FAIR

Applications for the 2007 [BA CREST Science Fair](#) are now closed. If your school submitted an entry, the students will be notified as to whether or not they have been accepted by the end of December. The Fair takes place on 23rd February at [The Royal Society](#), London.

One of the winners at the 2006 Fair, Henry Collier, 18, Bolton, has just returned from his prize trip to the [Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar](#) (SIYSS). SIYSS is a weeklong seminar for young scientists, arranged in connection to the Nobel Festivities. The program brings together young people from all over the world with similar interests and aims to promote international understanding and friendship.

5) TOUCH BA-ASE

[The Association for Science Education](#) (ASE) is holding its annual conference from Thursday 4th - Saturday 6th January 2007 at the University of Birmingham. You are invited to the launch of the BA's new primary award scheme – [CREST★Investigators](#), taking place on Friday 5th January at 10.30-11.30 (Staff House, Janet Baker/Michael Tippet (A&B) Room).

The BA's YPP team will also be running the following sessions:

- **Citizen Science: Resources to Discuss and Debate Contemporary Science Issues:** Thursday 4th January, 9.30-10.30 in BioSci Lab 5
- **How Science Works with BA CREST:** Thursday 4th January, 14.00-15.00 in BioSci Lab 5
- **Fizz Pop Bang! New BA activities for science week and science clubs:** Saturday 6th January, 11.30-12.30 in BioSci Lab 5
- **CREST★Investigators drop in session:** Saturday 6th January, 12.30-13.30 in MechEng G36

Please come and say hello to us at Stand A2.

To find out more about the event, please [click here](#).

6) TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL MATHS AND SCIENCE STUDY 2007

The [Scottish Executive](#) has contracted the [National Foundation for Educational Research](#) to conduct the latest Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study 2007. It assesses the knowledge and skills of students aged 9-10 and 13-14 in over 60 countries, and collects information about the quantity, quality, and content of teaching. Findings from the survey are used to inform education policy and to improve teaching and learning in maths and science. Participating schools will receive a summary of data for their pupils, and certificates recognising their contribution to the study. For more information about the study, email Mark Bailey m.bailey@nfer.ac.uk or call on 01753 637335.

7) INTEL EDUCATION SEMINARS

Join the [Intel World Ahead – Education Seminars](#) on January 10-11 at the Hilton London Olympia, featuring:

World Ahead-Education Keynote: Delivered by John Davies, Intel Vice-President and Director, World Ahead Program.

Building Schools of the Future Workshops:

Focused on the rebuilding of the UK educational infrastructure.

Intel® Teach-Advanced Online & Collaborative: An Introduction:

Presenting the benefits and rationales of Intel® Teach Online and Collaborative Course in the UK.

Education Solutions Showcase: Featuring the latest eLearning solutions from Intel and other leading companies.

8) ICE GETS 'FLUSHED AWAY'

[Dreamworks](#) (the makers of Shrek) and [Aardman](#) (the makers of Wallace and Grommit) have joined forces to make a new children's film, 'Flushed Away' (in UK cinemas from 1st December). [The Institution of Civil Engineers](#) have produced 10,000 copies of an educational game based on the film for Key Stage 1 (5-7 years olds) to be distributed free of charge to primary school teachers. About 1,500 copies are being sent to targeted groups, the remainder are available to order through the [ICE](#) website. The game is a cross-curricular end-of-term treat with curriculum-linked extension activities and is available for pre-ordering now.

9) FESTIVE FUN

Would you like to try something fun over the Christmas holidays? If so, you can try another one of our exciting activities which will be featured in [CREST★Investigators](#) next year. This activity is part of our [Young Investigators](#) award scheme (Superstar level). You can find the activity and organiser's instructions below.

[Spinners activity](#) (PDF 217KB)

[Spinners organiser's card](#) (PDF 204KB)

10) DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ASE Annual Meeting:

University of Birmingham, 4 - 6 January 2007

BA CREST Science Fair:

Royal Society, London, 23 February 2007

National Science and Engineering Week: Across the UK, 9 -18 March 2007

BA Festival of Science:

The University of York, 9 – 15 September 2007

11) AND THE FUN CONTINUES...

If the Spinners activity isn't enough to keep you busy this Christmas, try out some activities on the [Planet Science](#) website which provides free resources for students, under 11s, parents and teachers. You can also find interactive resources, games, online fun and career advice.

12) FINALLY...

That's all we have for this year, we hope you enjoyed our newsletter and we look forward to providing you with more news and updates in 2007. And just a quick reminder; we really want to celebrate the work of our members so if teachers/science club leaders could send in any news, examples of work, photos of students taking part in the award activities, we can include them on the YPP website and future e-newsletters. For more information about the website, contact: Sangeeta.dhapp@the-ba.net.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Young People's Programme.

The next e-newsletter will be emailed in March.
