



ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL PARADE 2012

Exploring the Wonder and Curiosity of Science

In collaboration with Dublin City of Science 2012

INTRODUCTION:

HOW? WHAT? WHY?

HOW? WHAT? WHY? is the theme for the 2012 St. Patrick's Festival Parade which will explore the wonder and curiosity of science in a fun, engaging and impactful manner. A selection of science related questions that children may ask have been explored by Ireland's leading pageant companies who each will present their imaginative, colourful and thought provoking creations on March 17th.

The sense of discovery, wonder and amazement of science will truly come alive in spectacular style on the streets of Dublin this St. Patrick's Day.

Working in collaboration with Dublin City of Science 2012 we want you and your students to engage with us, participate and share in this wonderful journey.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

We are asking primary school teachers around the country to get their students involved by asking them a selection of or indeed one of the HOW, WHAT, WHY based questions (listed below). Ask your students to discuss and communicate their thoughts on the question/s. Perhaps your class might prepare a poster/s, draw a picture, make a video or write a small piece about their thoughts. We would then ask that the teacher complete the short form attached and send their student's work (student's name, age, class and school should be written on the back of the work) to the Festival office no later than February 27th 2012.

WHAT WE WILL DO

We will then collate and present a selection of the students responses from around Ireland on the Festival website, use snippets in the Live Parade TV Commentary and most importantly display a selection on the Dublin City of Science 2012 downloadable information document that will accompany this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade. *

Depending on the numbers received we may exhibit some/all of the student's work in a live exhibition.

*The Festival may also wish to invite a representative student and family member/guardian from a selection of the schools that get involved to the Festival Parade.



THE HOW? WHAT? WHY? DOWNLOADABLE DOCUMENT:

This colourful, informative and fun document will be available for FREE download from 1st March 2012 from www.stpatricksfestival.ie and will contain the following:

- Educational responses to the selection of science related questions (Prepared by Dublin City of Science 2012)
- A selection of children's responses, thoughts, drawings, paintings exploring the answers.

THE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR CLASS:

We see this as a way to engage children with science and the national holiday of Ireland in a fun, imaginative and educational way.

Your students will benefit by:

- Having fun discussions and preparing their own/their class response,
- Learning the factual answers to the science questions from the downloadable document
- Watching the pageant company interpretations of the science questions on St. Patrick's Day (either live by attending the parade in Dublin or by viewing it live on RTÉ One).

Additional Notes:

St. Patrick's Day Parade takes place on Saturday March 17th from 12pm and is broadcast live on RTÉ One.

THE SCIENCE RELATED QUESTIONS BEING EXPLORED.....

1. How do you tell the age of a forest?
2. Why do we dream?
3. How is a rainbow formed?
4. What makes the weather change?
5. How do our senses work?
6. What lives beneath the sea?
7. How is electricity made?
8. If the earth is spinning why don't we fall off?

ANY QUESTIONS ? E: niamh@stpatricksfestival.ie Ph: 01 6763205 www.stpatricksfestival.ie

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Please send the following form along with the work from your class.

Name of School: _____

Address of School: _____

Class: _____

Teachers Name: _____

School Contact No: _____

School Email Address: _____

Science Question/s Discussed: _____

THANK YOU!