



Green-Schools Marine Creative Writing Competition 2021

Introduction

The aim of the competition is for individual students to create an original piece of creative writing exploring the theme of “the ocean”. The piece may take the form of either a **short story** or a **poem**. Entries may be typed or handwritten but **must** be submitted through the official online entry form at <https://forms.gle/bBawXGuzdBJPh8dXA> (see Terms & Conditions overleaf).

The story or poem can cover any topic so long as it relates to the overall theme of “the ocean”. Students may wish to use the optional prompts below as inspiration:

"The ocean and me"

"Waves"

"Deep down in the sea"

Eligibility

The competition is open to primary schools that are registered Green-Schools currently working on, or previously awarded for, the Global Citizenship: Marine Environment theme.

Categories

There are three categories for entry:

- **1st & 2nd class**
- **3rd & 4th class**
- **5th & 6th class**

Entries from Special Primary schools are strongly encouraged. Special Primary entries may be entered into whichever age category is deemed most appropriate by the student’s teacher, parent or guardian.

Prizes

There will be one overall national winner for each age category; each winner will receive a trophy, €100 book token, a seal adoption from Seal Rescue Ireland (€30) and a writing workshop for their class from Poetry Ireland (workshop may be delivered online depending on Covid-19 restrictions, scheduling of workshop is subject to availability and as such may not take place until next academic year 2021-2022). Equivalent prizes may be offered subject to availability.

Runners-up will receive a trophy and a €50 book token.

Terms & Conditions of Entry

1. Number of Entries: Schools may submit up to three individual entries per age category, and therefore a maximum of nine entries per school. Individual students may **not** submit multiple



entries. We recommend that teachers run a school or class competition (which could be done remotely if schools are closed) and submit the top entries from this to the Green-Schools competition.

2. Word count: Entries should be no more than 500 words.

3. Format: Entries can be either a short story or a poem. Entries may be typed or handwritten, but all entries must be submitted through the online entry form (see below). Entries may be submitted in either English or Irish.

4. Methods of Entry: Entries must be submitted through the **online entry form** at the following link: <https://forms.gle/bBawXGuzdBJPh8dXA>

Entries can either be typed/pasted into the space provided or for handwritten entries, a scan or image of the entry can be uploaded through the form. Please ensure that scans are **clear and legible**; poor quality or illegible images will be disqualified.

If a teacher is submitting multiple entries from one school, **a separate form must be used for each entry**. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Green-Schools Office is closed, and postal entries **cannot** be accepted.

5. Contact details: Entries **must** be submitted through the online form and include all the required details for the entrant and his/her school for correspondence purposes.

6. Closing Date: Entries must be received by 4pm, Friday 5th March 2021.

7. Notification: Competition winners will be notified in April and winning entries will be publicised during Green-Schools Marine Week in late April (details to be announced shortly). Unsuccessful entrants will not be notified.

8. Judging: A panel of judges will select the winning entries. The judges' decision is final. No correspondence relating to the competition will be entered into.

9. Returns: Entrants should keep a copy of their work. Green-Schools is unable to return any entries to schools.

10. Publicity: Winners may be asked to take part in competition publicity including being photographed by the media. Winning entries will be read or displayed during Green-Schools Marine Week online event in April 2021. Winning students may be asked to read their winning entry at a live or pre-recorded online event during Green-Schools Marine Week.

11. Eligibility: The competition is open to all registered Green-Schools primary schools who are working on, or have been awarded, the Global Citizenship: Marine Environment theme.

12. Consent: By submitting an entry to the competition you declare that the work is the original work solely owned and created by the entrant. You give permission that Green-Schools Ireland and the sponsor the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage may reproduce the work or any part of it online on their websites and social media platforms, at online Green-Schools Marine Week events and in any anthology, newsletter or report which Green-Schools or the Department may produce, without payment to the entrant. The work may be edited or unedited, as long as the author is credited.

11. Entry to the competition constitutes full and unconditional acceptance of these Terms & Conditions.