



Dear Educators:

The Discovery Centre is pleased to introduce the **Reel Science Film Competition**, presented by Saint Mary's University.

This year, film takes an even bigger starring role! Our film competition is now open to all grade 4-6 classes. Films must still explore science curriculum topics, but now submissions can be between three and five minutes. And along with great cash prizes to be won, this year the winning film will be featured at the 2012 ViewFinders Film Festival! Get your class started on this exciting and educational creative challenge.

The competition gives you the chance to take your class on an adventure in science, teamwork, language arts and technology – all at the same time! Students have the creative freedom to develop and produce films based on any science topic covered in your curriculum. The top three films will win a trip to the Discovery Centre for a gala Awards Ceremony on March 19. Don't miss out on this exciting, educational and entertaining competition. **The deadline for entry submissions is March 1, 2012.**

For your convenience, please find attached the Rules, Registration Forms and other information related to the Reel Science Film Competition. You can also find this information on our website at [www.thediscoverycentre.ca](http://www.thediscoverycentre.ca). Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

We look forward to seeing your class submission!

Sincerely,

Steve Thurbide  
Manager of Visitor Programs  
492-4422 x 223  
[sthurbide@discoverycentre.ns.ca](mailto:sthurbide@discoverycentre.ns.ca)



The Reel Science Film Competition invites Grade 4 to Grade 6 classes to produce a short film on any science topic from your curriculum. Videos are judged by a panel of industry and community volunteers. The top three videos will be awarded cash prizes for their class and a visit to Discovery Centre for the Awards Ceremony. The winning film will also be featured at this year's ViewFinders Film Festival! This is your chance for an educational, fun, hands-on project to engage your students. They will develop their **teamwork**, **creativity** and **production management** skills, all while learning about technology and the **science topic** of their choice.

Need more reasons why you should register your class?

**Parallels your curriculum:**

**Science** – any topic can be covered as long as it is in your curriculum. Students can experiment, record, research, analyze and interpret data.

**Language Arts** – script writing, vocabulary and public speaking.

**Social Studies** – researching subject history, exploration of multimedia and its impact.

**Builds self-esteem and creativity.**

**Encourages teamwork and independent work habits.**

Contest winners will have their video premiered on the big screen at a special awards ceremony at the Discover Centre, followed by a pizza party.

<b>First Prize:</b>	<b>\$500.00 + screening at the ViewFinders Film Festival</b>
<b>Second Prize:</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>Third Prize:</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

Don't miss out on this exciting, educational and entertaining competition. **The deadline for entry submission is March 1, 2012.**

***Note:*** *Schools more than 100 km away will receive a travel allowance of up to \$500 to attend the awards ceremony.*



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## RULES

1. **Deadlines:** All completed Videos, DVDs or Media Discs must be at the Discovery Centre by **5:00 pm on March 1, 2012.**
2. The top three classes are expected to attend the Awards Ceremony on March 19, 2012 at the Discovery Centre.
3. The film project should be student driven, from planning, writing, videotaping, directing and producing. Teachers need to sign a statement attesting that the video was developed and completed by the students with only *minimal* guidance from teachers.
4. The class may choose the style in which they wish to present their topic, i.e. documentary, drama, interviews, comedy, etc.
5. Films must be at least three (3) minutes and no more than five (5) minutes in length. Acceptable formats include VHS, DVD, Quicktime and Windows Media files. Please do not send video camera tapes.
6. The contest is open to all Grade 4-6 classes in Nova Scotia.

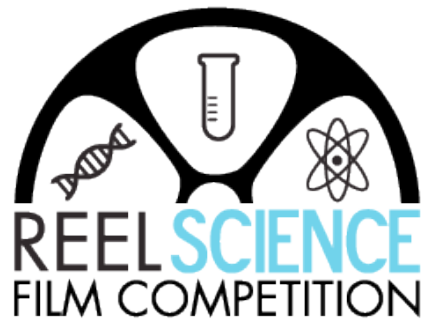
## JUDGING

Judging will be based on the following criteria:

1. Accuracy of the science	25
2. Scientific content	25
3. Originality/creativity/entertainment value	25
4. Clarity of presentation	15
5. Adherence to rules (i.e. deadlines & length)	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>



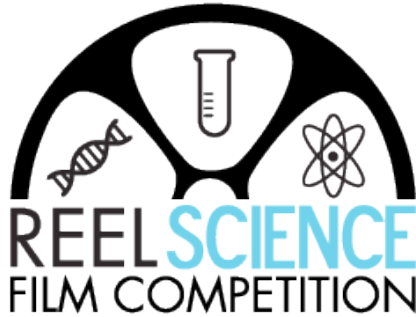
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## TIPS FOR STUDENTS

- The science content and accuracy are the two most important aspects of the video. It's as important to explain the science as it is to present it well.
- It's a good idea to rehearse all speaking parts before videotaping. Understand what you're saying – this will help when you memorize your part.
- Make sure you speak clearly and loudly. The judges need to hear and understand what you are saying.
- When (and if) possible, use a tripod; this eliminates a lot of shaky camera movement.
- Remember to introduce your video title, class name and school at the beginning of your video.
- This is **your** project. Be creative and tell each other your ideas. Work as a team in generating your topic, doing research, videotaping, acting, editing, etc. Your teacher's role is to guide and act as a resource person in the project.
- Be sure to keep the video between three (3) to five (5) minutes.

*Teachers: Please make sure you include the Video Identification and Attestation Form with your finished product and that the video is well labeled. We will be keeping your videos here at Discovery Centre so please make a copy for your class!*



## REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FORM

Please return by fax or email before January 31, 2012

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students: \_\_\_\_\_

School Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ My class list is enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

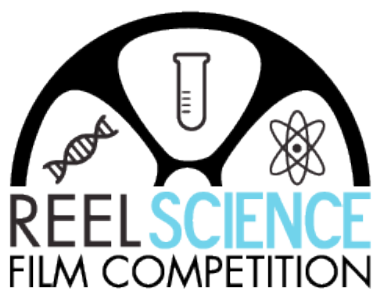
Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact:**

Reel Science Film Competition  
Discovery Centre  
1593 Barrington Street  
Halifax NS B3J 1Z7  
Phone: 492-4422; Fax: 492-3170



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## VIDEO IDENTIFICATION & ATTESTATION FORM

*Please include this form with your video submission*

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students: \_\_\_\_\_

School Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Video Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Video Length: \_\_\_\_\_

**I verify that the video entered by my class was produced and completed by my students, and that I played only a guiding role in this project.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Mail or drop off to:**

Science Film Competition, Discovery Centre, 1593 Barrington Street, Halifax NS B3J 1Z7



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