

AIMS Science Competition

inspired by Theo Jansen's Strandbeests



This year the AIMS Primary Science competition is inspired by the work of Theo Jansen. He is a Dutch artist who builds large mechanisms out of PVC. They move on their own and are called "Strandbeests". The kinetic sculptures use mechanisms and renewable energy to appear to walk. These structures are made from all types of recycled materials, but especially plastic (yellow Dutch electricity pipes!). They are seen roaming beaches powered by the wind!

This year students are challenged to create their own Theo Jansen inspired kinetic sculpture or automata*.

For entries in the EYFS section our judges will be looking for:

- Wind operated movement
- Wow factor
- Use of recycled materials

For entries in the older sections (Years 1 to 6) our judges will be looking for:

- Best demonstration of movement
- Wow factor
- Powered by renewable source (like wind power)
- Recycled materials
- Use of mechanisms and engineering
- Optional: has a useful purpose (e.g. weathervane, irrigator etc.)

How to enter

- Students need to submit their entry as a video diary and explanation. (This must include a video log of their process. This will document the improvement process and learning reflections.)
- There are 4 age categories: EYFS, KS1 (Years 1 and 2), LKS2 (Years 3 and 4) and UKS2 (Years 5 and 6)
- Students will need to work independently (outside of school)
- Submit entries by April 29th 2022



Scan the QR code
to know more