

Young Geographer of the Year Competition 2024

**Royal
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Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
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The theme for the Young Geographer of the Year competition 2024 is:

Choose Geography



Why should we #ChooseGeography?

There has never been a better or more important time to study geography.

Geography helps you to make sense of the world around you. It's hands on, relevant, and fun. Whatever your passion for the world – fascination with landscapes or concerns about sustainability – geography will provide you with knowledge and transferable skills that will reward you personally and advance you professionally.

The Society invites you to create your own #ChooseGeography poster to promote the value of choosing geography at school, in further study and in the workplace, linking geographical skills to real people and jobs that make a difference. We are looking for eye catching, creative and informative posters that promote geography as an excellent choice, highlighting its relevance and demonstrating how studying geography can help you understand the world we live in and the 'big issues' that we face as a society.

Your posters should include details of why geography is a useful and relevant subject to study, why studying geography matters and how it can help you to understand a range of ideas and concepts. We also want to hear about the skills that geographers have that make them stand out from the crowd, and where geography can take you. Geographers work in a wide range of careers and employment sectors, so your poster should highlight some of the jobs that geographers do and demonstrate how geographers make a difference. We also want to hear what parts of geography you find the most interesting and useful to study and why!

Entering the competition

The competition has four categories.

- Key Stage 2 (pupils aged 7-11)
- Key Stage 3 (pupils aged 11-14)
- Key Stage 4 or GCSE (pupils aged 14-16)
- Key Stage 5 or A Level (pupils aged 16-18)

Students should enter the Key Stage category they will be in on 30 June 2024. For example, if you are/were in Year 9 in June 2024, you should submit as a KS3 entry.

There are two submission pathways. We will be asking participants to provide details of their school type when they submit their entry, and participants will need to fill in the correct online form that matches their school type and then upload their documents into the correct file area. Entries submitted into the wrong school type folder when uploading may be discounted. We will be selecting one winner and one highly commended entry for each age category from entries from state funded schools, and one winner and one highly commended entry for each age category from entries from independent and international schools.

The deadline for receipt of all entries is **Friday 4 October 2024 at 5.00pm. Entries received after this time will not be accepted.** We encourage schools to run an in-house competition and only send their top 10 entries into the national competition. Due to the volume of entries the Society cannot enter into correspondence about individual entries or provide feedback. We will contact you/your student if you/they are selected as a winner. All winners and highly commended students will be invited to an Awards Ceremony at the Society in London on Friday 29 November 2024.

All entries **must be made as an online submission via our website** (www.rgs.org/ygoty2024).

Submissions can be made by individual students or teachers. Teacher and school contact details must be provided.

Entries **must use the file name/type requirements** specified on the online application form, or they cannot be considered. **We cannot accept or judge any entries by post.** Entries must not show the students name or school name on them.

General entry criteria

Students across all age categories should produce an **A3 size** poster entry. This can be handmade (then submitted electronically using a scanned copy or photograph – please ensure the quality of the image is good enough so that it can be read before submitting and that the whole poster is shown) or made electronically using PowerPoint, Word, Publisher or PDF, etc.

Key Stage 2 criteria: Submit a poster that encourages students to explore geography, including what you like most about the subject and why it is useful to learn about the world and the people who live in it.

Key Stage 3 criteria: Submit a poster that encourages students to #ChooseGeography, including why studying geography is a good choice, what parts of geography you find most useful to study and why and at least two ideas of where studying geography can take you.

Key Stage 4 criteria: Submit a poster that encourages students to #ChooseGeography, including why studying geography is a good choice and what skills it provides, how studying geography can help you to understand the world in which we live and at least three ideas of where studying geography can take you.

Key Stage 5 criteria: Submit a poster that encourages students to #ChooseGeography, including why studying geography is a good choice and what skills it provides, how studying geography can help you to understand the world in which we live and highlighting the range and breadth of careers studying geography can lead to.

All entries should address this year's theme and must meet the following criteria:

- Contains the words #ChooseGeography
- A well-written and informative overview which demonstrates understanding of the breadth of geography as a subject and how the knowledge and skills gained from studying geography can be used in the wider world.

- **IMPORTANT** : Any images used must be copyright free – we recommend using sites such as Unsplash and Pixabay. All images must be credited.
- Using examples of real people and real jobs where possible.
- Excellent attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Use of accurate geographical terminology.
- Original and independently produced - class sets of identical entries or entries which have copied information from other sources, such as the internet, will not be accepted.
- If produced electronically, please use a minimum font size of point 10.
- Entries must not be 3D or have tabs or hidden information.

We **do not** have a preferred style for submissions. We are looking for eye-catching, innovative, informative and accurate submissions which will encourage students to #ChooseGeography at all stages throughout their school years- be that GCSE, A Level or University.

Please ensure that you:

- Use the correct submission form for your school type
- Do not submit your details into the online submission form until you are ready to also upload your entries into our file system (ie there is no need to pre-register to take part).

We request that entries are submitted in good time and not left until the final submission day to be uploaded.

File names and submission codes

All entry files must be clearly named as follows before submission:

Submission code* - Student's initials (use middle name initial too if there are any duplicates) - Key Stage e.g. 2AR-14-03-GM-HS-KS4

*Submission code: Last three (3) characters of your school postcode - Submission day - Submission month - Teacher's initials, e.g. 2AR-14-03-GM

Failure to label files clearly may result in submissions not being considered. Entries should be uploaded in one batch per school. Up to 10 entries can be submitted at one time. File names must not show the child or teacher's full name.

Important notice

By taking part in the Young Geographer of the Year competition and submitting your entry to the RGS-IBG, you are providing agreement that the RGS-IBG may use your #ChooseGeography poster to support their careers and progression work. Posters produced by the winners and highly commended entries will be published on the RGS-IBG website for schools to download and use (and therefore all images used must be copyright free). Posters from entries that have not been awarded prizes may also be used this way. Where a poster is published online, the Society will ensure that the poster is credited with the child's name only.

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