



## Science Grant Scheme Update

This scheme is now open to 250 schools in Lancashire.  
To date, 134 schools have received one or two grants.

With only one term left to apply, this school year's Edina Trust Science Grant Scheme has been progressing well in Lancashire, with 115 schools applying for grants for a variety of activities.

Schools in the region have organised science weeks to inspire pupils and engage those from all ages in practical, fun investigations and to find out what science is all about.

Science weeks across Lancashire have included:- pupil-parent science challenges, where parents and children got the chance to work together to solve problems; science fairs, where pupils brought in their own experiments; and opportunities for older pupils to teach the younger ones about what they have learnt.

Carleton Green Primary School enjoyed a jam-packed week of activities and investigations for their Science Week. On the first day they encouraged the children to put up "Questions we'd like to know the answers to" and "We found out..." speech bubbles on a board in the main hall. The challenge was to use the week to inspire them all to become 'Scientific Thinkers'.

The week's varied experiments and investigations included: what drink produced the highest mentos geyser, and could 'successful' drinks be mixed to make an even higher geyser; and how to keep an ice cube from melting. In many cases these investigations were extended to follow on from the children's questions.

A variety of speakers also visited the school. These were a great success and the children had fun while learning a lot about some challenging topics.

A few weeks before their science week the school had a meeting to give teachers the chance to try all the more messy/ dramatic experiments, e.g. how to make slime, before attempting them with a class. This gave teachers the chance to think about other follow on investigations.

Update No. 2: 3rd May 2011

### Examples of:

Science Week topics:

- Habitats and Life Cycles
- Science in the Real World
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Hands-on science

Our website

[www.edinatrust.org.uk](http://www.edinatrust.org.uk)

includes:

- More information on projects that schools have planned with their Edina Trust Grant, and
- Other resources for planning your own science event.
- [Request an application form](#) (or any other queries)
- [Tips on applying for a grant](#)

For any further help applying please contact:

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# Edina Trust



## Update No. 2: 3rd May

Over half of those schools applying for their first grant have been ordering equipment to update their science resources and help make science more exciting and hands-on for pupils. These interactive resources have included dark dens and hand-held digital microscopes. One school also increased pupil's enthusiasm for their 'habitats' work through the purchase of live insects from Insect Lore.

Science visits, both to and from schools, have included Adrian Bowden's Travelling Science Show on 'Light and Sound', Alan Bennett's 'Animal Adaptations', and the Global Renewables education team. One school had a visit from the Starchaser Rocket Company and pupils learnt all about an astronaut's journey and had the chance to make and launch their own rockets. In trips out of school, children visited Underwater Street in Liverpool, the Maritime Museum and made local trips to Cuerden Valley Park for pond-dipping and a mini-beast hunt.

The subscription, Primary Upd8, has also proved a great success, with many schools loving the new ideas for ways to cover interesting and challenging work with their pupils.

### Recommendations for a successful Science Week:

- Order equipment well in advance as some suppliers often run low on stock, especially around National Science Week
- Start planning early and spread the workload around as a good science week requires a lot of organisation.
- Get messy and have fun!

Trips/Visiting speakers that schools have used:

- Sports Coaches
- BAE
- Police
- Farm
- Bird Sanctuary
- Engineering Company

### Remember:

The last day to receive applications is Friday the 22nd of July, the last day of Summer term.

No retrospective applications can be accepted.

The Science Grant Scheme will run in Lancashire for 3 years (with lucky pilot schools receiving the chance of a grant for 4 years).

### Gardening resources available

- **Royal Horticultural Society**

[www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk)

RHS campaign for all schools to have a garden, and upon free registration, they will provide each school with a free start up kit, free seeds every year, newsletters and rewards for progress.

- **Grow your own Potatoes**

[www.potatoesforschools.org.uk](http://www.potatoesforschools.org.uk)

'Grow your own Potatoes' is a project that teaches primary school children about potatoes. Schools can register to receive a free potato growing kit. The website also offers teacher resources such as lesson plans and worksheets, as well as links to the curriculum and healthy eating advice.

