Gonville & Caius Natural Sciences Challenge 2020

The Natural Sciences course in Cambridge covers a broad range of biological and physical science subjects (https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/natural-sciences). The course encourages students to see links between the sciences, which is often how the most exciting discoveries are made.

If you are a Year 12 student interested in Natural Sciences, you are probably already studying one or more of the core science subjects—Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This year’s Gonville & Caius Natural Sciences Challenge asks you to research and present a scientific topic within one of the other science subjects offered in the first year of the Cambridge Natural Sciences course. The possibilities are:

- Behavioural Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Evolution
- Materials Science
- Physiology

The task is to develop a classroom presentation and/or activity on your chosen topic that is suitable for Year 12 science students with your level of knowledge and experience. You do not necessarily have to pick an “advanced” scientific topic; a clear and insightful presentation of day-to-day observations can be just as interesting and inspiring. Where possible, your presentation should highlight concepts that are familiar from your studies of the core sciences. For example, topics in Materials Science and Earth Sciences might build on knowledge in Chemistry, while topics in Physiology might require understanding of Biology and/or Physics. Quantitative elements (e.g. mathematical equations, numerical calculations) are encouraged.

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<th>Your Challenge entry should include:</th>
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<td>The presentation and/or activity in the form of a written document or PowerPoint presentation. The layout should be clear, with diagrams/pictures where appropriate; however, scientific content is more important than artistic impression.</td>
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Please submit your entry in electronic form (preferably PDF) to schoolsprizes@cai.cam.ac.uk. Entries should arrive by Fri 5th June 2020. Please do not put your name or your school’s name on your entry, but instead complete a cover sheet. The completed cover sheet must be sent with your submission. All entrants will be notified with the results of the competition by early September.