CREST AWARDS

DISCOVERY AWARD

TEACHER GUIDE

Introduction to CREST Discovery Award

CREST Discovery Awards engage and inspire a wide range of students in STEM activities. The flexible framework can be adapted for students of different ages and abilities, and can be used in a range of contexts:

- To support primary-secondary transition
- For team-building on a collapsed timetable day
- As a focus to increase engagement in STEM
- As an opportunity for collaboration between school departments
- As an activity for a holiday club or youth group.

During the project, students will develop skills in self-management, problem solving, team work, research and communication.

Look on the CREST Awards website for further information about project ideas, CREST accredited schemes and how to support your students.

www.crestawards.org

Managed by: BRITISH SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

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What does a Discovery Award involve?

- Around 5 hours of project work, which can be completed in a single day
- Students work on a single challenge or series of clearly linked challenges
- Most of the time should be spent solving the challenge, working collaboratively in groups with minimal adult intervention
- Students record and reflect on the day using the CREST Discovery passport
- Students communicate their findings in a group presentation.

How to run a Discovery project

CREST Discovery Awards are very flexible, and can be delivered in a number of ways:

- You could use the ready-made plans and resources available on our website to run a Discovery project: www.crestawards.org
- You could arrange for an external education provider run a Discovery project with your students.
- This could be at your school, or at another location such as a museum. You can find information about a range of CREST accredited providers at https://www.crestawards.org/crest-accredited-resources-and-activities
- You could plan your own project which enables students to meet the CREST Discovery assessment objectives. This could link to other activities in your school.

Planning your own Discovery project

If you're using our resources or working with a CREST accredited scheme, then you can be sure that your project will meet the CREST assessment objectives.

If you're planning your own project, you should make sure it involves the following aspects:

- Students work on a single challenge or series of clearly linked challenges
- The challenge/ linked challenges have a clear real-world context
- The challenge(s) allow students some creative freedom within a structured project
- Students work collaboratively in self-managed groups
- Students record and reflect on the day through self-evaluation. You can use the CREST Discovery passport for this.
- Students communicate their findings in a group presentation.

CREST Discovery assessment objectives

The project should allow opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate the following skills:

Assessment objective	Could include
Self-management	• Readiness to accept responsibility • Flexibility • Effective time management • Motivation to improve own performance • Confidence when tackling tasks
Team-working	• Respecting other people's work and views • Working collaboratively • Negotiating/persuading • Contributing positively to discussions
Problem-solving	Analysing circumstances and applying a creative approach to develop solutions
Research	Acquiring new knowledge relevant to the task and applying it appropriately
Communication	• Following written and verbal instructions • Talking and listening to other team members • Producing a presentation which relates to the original brief and which reflects the creativity of the group
Reflective practice	The ability to recognise: • What knowledge and skills have been gained • Where they could have worked more effectively • Where they achieved/exceeded expectations This skill can be recognised using the Discovery passport.

Assessing the project and requesting certificates

Once you have completed your CREST Discovery project, you can log in to your CREST account to assess project work and request certificates for your students.

You should review students' Discovery passports and decide which students have met the assessment criteria and have achieved their CREST Discovery Awards.

To assess students, you will be asked to confirm that the students have:

- Completed around 5 hours of work on the project
- Participated fully in the project
- Reflected on their learning

You will also be asked to upload a sample of your students work for moderation. You may choose to upload a selection of completed Discovery passports, or other work your students have completed during the project.