

Finished your work? Let's SCIENCE!

Issue 5

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Key Stage 3 section:

Competition: search for the strangest species on Earth!

In this competition, you are invited to do your own research – to investigate the weird and wonderful life on Earth and to choose the species you think is strangest. A panel of scientists and science editors will judge the entries. If you win they'll publish your entry in *Science in School* magazine. Competition details are [here](#).

Key Stage 4 section:

Investigating the 2nd law of thermodynamics.

Water freezes at 0°C. Everyone knows that. But is it possible to get liquid water to a lower temperature? This experiment brings water down to below its freezing point, and then sets off the freezing reaction all at once. If you can get it right, it's AMAZING! Video is [here](#) with an experimental method [here](#).

Science stories this week

[Fidget spinner device can diagnose UTIs in under 1h](#)

[The continued threat of coal mining at the Mapungubwe world heritage site](#)

[Microplastics discovered blowing ashore in sea breezes](#)

[Wound-healing patch of blue-green algae mends skin quickly](#)

[Why clouds form near black holes](#)

Experiments you can do at home

Jo and her daughter Sally investigate the chemistry of cakes by making microwave mug cakes in this fun kitchen science experiment. They follow the recipe for the perfect cake, then investigate what happens if they try making the cakes without certain ingredients - that's the scientific method! [Click to see the video](#).

Citizen science

Science can produce a LOT of data. Sometimes, there is too much for the scientists to look at themselves. This is where you can help, right now, to improve our understanding of the world around us. Each week we will showcase a different citizen science project that you could get involved with.

This week's project is Earthquake Detective which aims to classify types of seismic events which are measured as motion on the surface of the earth. [Click to join this project](#).

Science on the iPlayer

[Chemistry: a volatile history](#): First part in an amazing series about the history of chemistry (*I love this!* - Dr A)

[The planets](#): In this landmark series, Professor Brian Cox tells the extraordinary life story of our solar system.

[The truth about takeaways](#): Nikki Fox loves a takeaway but wants to find out what they're really doing to us.

Eyes to the sky

Here is the opportunity to get involved in an extended astronomy project for students aged 14-17. You get to use the advanced skills of photometry and spectroscopy. [Join here](#).