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MY ENVIRONMENT MY FUTURE

Waste or Wonder?

Can you eliminate waste, circulate materials and regenerate the environment?

Free national schools competition

The Built Environment Schools Trust is delighted to announce the launch of the annual My Environment, My Future national competition. This exciting opportunity is open for young people across primary and secondary schools.

The Challenge

This year's competition theme is "Waste or Wonder?" and examines how we can live more sustainably within our built environment. It is universally recognised that we live in a wasteful society and that our waste is harmful to our environment and our rate of consumption of products is unsustainable.

Why Waste?

This year's competition encourages students to look not only at how they can be less wasteful, but also to consider regenerative models so that nature and communities can be restored and enhanced (and possibly money made!). Each entry will consider an element of life in the built environment and examine the waste generated (linear economy) and then propose ideas for how a circular or even regenerative economy can be achieved.

Who Can Enter?

We have categories for KS2, 3, 4 and 5 and students can enter as individuals or groups. All entries are submitted digitally as either a poster, a presentation or a video.

Why Get Involved?

- Cross-curriculum links (STEM, Geography, Design, IT)
- Free and up-to-date supporting materials and resources to enrich your teaching
- Builds teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving skills
- Inspires awareness of careers in the Built Environment – a sector shaping the places we all live, learn, and work
- Links to Gatsby Benchmark 4,5 & 6

About Us

The Built Environment Schools Trust charity runs My Environment My Future (MEMF) to bring careers awareness into classrooms and widen access to opportunities, especially for under-represented young people.

KEY DATES 2027

Competition Opens: 18th January
Submission Deadline: 7th May
Winners Announced: 4th June

PRIZES

- £50 voucher per winning student
- £100 voucher Teacher award for innovative use of MEMF
- Winners invited to careers talks with industry experts
- Every student receives a Certificate of Participation and feedback from our panel of judges.

What students say...

"I enjoyed designing the buildings and thinking about the small changes that make it more sustainable. I would recommend it to other people ...as it makes you better at presenting an idea, researching, thinking critically and working in a team" Year 10

What teachers said ...

"Thank you so much to you and the team for organising the event and giving our students the opportunity to take part. It really enriches their experience and gives them the opportunity to put what they have learnt into practice"

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