

Royal Australian Chemical Institute NSW Branch presents:

2019 RACI Crystal Growing Competition



Crystals are everywhere. Just think of our daily lives. Sugar and salt are crystals. LCD computer and TV screens have many tiny crystals inside.

Where else can you find crystals? How about your classroom?

If you enter the RACI NSW Crystal Growing Competition then you can create your own crystals within six weeks and then have a chance to have these crystals judged and the results published during **National Science Week**.

Why be involved?

Do you want to have fun with Science? Would you like to do some simple chemistry experiments with your students? Then enter the RACI NSW Crystal Growing Competition and learn all about growing beautiful crystals.

Participation fulfils the **NSW syllabus aims for both K-6 and 7-10** of developing competence, confidence and responsibility in science and technology. It provides a learning experience which allows students to acquire scientific knowledge and skills and develop understanding about phenomena within and beyond their experience. **And it is fun to do!**

What's involved?

The aim is to grow the best possible crystal of potash alum (also called alum or potassium aluminum sulfate) or another substance over a period of 6 weeks during Term 2. **The competition closes on Friday 5 July 2019.**

The competition is judged in the following categories:

- ❖ Alum only: K-3 / Years 4-6 / Years 7 & 8 / Years 9-12
- ❖ Open (anything other than pure alum): Primary (K-Year 6) / Secondary (Years 7-12)

- **The crystals can be grown by one student or by a group of up to four students.**
- **A class group may also enter however the Certificate will be issued for the Class name only.**

Crystals will be judged on shape and clarity firstly, rather than size. The winning crystals in each division will receive certificates and winning schools receive a trophy. The best crystals will be sent to the **RACI National Competition**.



Primary teachers can request a copy of a creative lesson sequence leading to growing crystals from Dr Jenny Jones, please email: jennyjonesdr@gmail.com

The competition costs \$10.00 per school to enter. Alum can be purchased from the RACI NSW Branch Office.

Registration and Alum Order Form plus further useful information can be downloaded at: <https://www.raci.org.au/branches/nsw-branch/nsw-crystal-growing-competition>

For further information please email: raci-nsw@raci.org.au

