

What is the BA?

The BA is a charity whose mission is to connect science with people, making science itself and the ways in which it is applied accessible to all. The Young People's Programme is an integral part of this. We aim to engage and inspire young people with science and technology and their implications. We run a number of award schemes for young people of all ages, we provide INSET training and resources for teachers and organise events for young people to experience science and technology directly.

INSET: Tin Cans, Marshmallows and Alka Seltzer

The BA runs an INSET workshop entitled 'Tin cans, marshmallows and Alka Seltzer' that explores the different ways in which science clubs can be run. It is aimed at science educators and those in teacher training and it provides useful information and tips on existing science education resources that can be taken up as part of a science club.

This interactive workshop is offered at primary or secondary level and shows how science clubs can help schools deliver activities for gifted and talented students, developing thinking skills, primary-secondary bridging, formative assessment and other enrichment activities.

BA Award Schemes for Primary Schools

BA First Investigators, for 5-8 year olds, and **BA Young Investigators**, for 8-13 year olds, are award schemes that help students develop their sense of curiosity into an ability to investigate and learn the basic approaches of science and technology. Each teacher member receives a pack of easy to use science activities complete with guidelines, worksheets, simple equipment lists, ideas for extension activities and clear explanations of the science background. As students complete the activities they can apply for certificates and badges to recognize their achievement.

Science Communicators is our brand new award scheme for ages 11+. Its aim is to inspire and engage young people with scientific issues. Science Communicator awards enable students to develop a broader understanding of the role of science and technology in today's society and the ability to communicate relevant issues in an informed and confident way. Each member receives a pack including guidelines, ideas for activities, and passports and stickers that students can use to record their progress.

To gain their award students must carry out a range of activities that comprise text-based elements, live presentations and practical science communication skills. Some examples of the activities are writing a poem about a science subject, taking part in a drama workshop, making a poster or taking part in a debate on a science issue.

BA CREST Awards

Celebrating **CREativity** in **Science** and **Technology**

BA CREST is a nationally recognized accreditation scheme for project work in the fields of science and technology. Aimed at students aged 11-19, BA CREST awards encourage students to develop their scientific curiosity, problem-solving and communication skills.

Through a mentoring system, the scheme facilitates links between schools and industry or higher education. It enables students of all abilities to explore real scientific, engineering and technological problems for themselves and promotes work-related learning.

BA CREST awards motivate students, build confidence and encourage them to pursue careers in science, engineering and technology.

BA Science Discovery Days

BA Science Discovery Days (formerly known as BAYSDAYs) are regional events for 6-13 year olds. Some of the activities children can participate in will be equivalent to BA Young Investigators or BA First Investigators awards. Some of the events planned for 2004 are:

- **Science is Great** North East Science Discovery Day, 13th-20th June, University of Teesside
- **Science Discovery Day** at the **BA Festival of Science** from 6th-10th September at the University of Exeter.

We are also developing **online resources** to help teachers put on their own mini-Science Discovery Day in school. **Science Live**, the online directory of science presenters is already up and running at www.sciencelive.net

For more information about the Young People's Programme at the BA please visit our website www.the-ba.net, contact us via email: ypp@the-ba.net or phone us on 020 7019 4943