Young Geographer of the Year
Competition 2021

Remapping our Lives

For this year’s Young Geographer of the Year (YGOTY) competition we are asking young people to create an annotated map which reveals how their lives were shaped by the Covid pandemic.

We are interested to see maps which illustrate and describe:
* Which local human and physical features they, and their family, used during the pandemic
* Why some places were especially important to young people
* The places they couldn’t visit and why
* If the pandemic has led to them experiencing any new places in their local area
* How the pandemic changed their geographical understanding of their local area
* Any links which ‘stretch’ their maps to other places which were also important to them during the pandemic.

Entering the competition
The competition has four categories.
- Key Stage 2 (pupils aged 7-11)
- Key Stage 3 (pupils aged 11-14)
- Key Stage 4 or GCSE (pupils aged 14-16)
- Key Stage 5 or A Level (pupils aged 16-18)

Students should enter the Key Stage category which they will be in as of 30 June 2021.

The deadline for receipt of all entries is Thursday 22 July 2021 at 5:00pm.
*Extended deadline Friday 1 October 2021 5:00pm*

Thank you to all of those who have already entered, and for those who will complete their entries before the summer break. However due to ongoing circumstances with Covid within education, we have taken the decision to extend to the deadline to allow schools who haven’t already been involved the opportunity to submit entries. **Entrants must enter into the Key stage category they were in on the 30 June 2021.**

Please note that the changing date of submission will not affect judging. If you have any queries or questions, please email Eduadmin@rgs.org

Entries received after this time will not be accepted. We encourage schools to run an in-house competition and only send their top 10 entries into the national competition. Due to the volume of entries the Society cannot enter into correspondence about individual entries. We will contact you if you are selected as a winner. Winners will be announced by the start of the autumn 2021 term.

Submissions can be made by individual students or teachers. Teacher and school contact details must be provided

All entries must be made as an online submission using the link via www.rgs.org/YGOTY.

Entries must use the file name / type requirements specified on the online application form, or they cannot be considered. If you are a teacher sending in entries, please also note how many students in your school took part in the competition. We cannot accept or judge any entries by post.

General entry criteria
KS2, KS3 and KS4 students will produce an A3 size entry. This can be handwritten, (then sent in electronically via a scanned copy or photograph) or using PowerPoint, word, publisher or PDF, etc. KS5 students will produce an Esri Story Map containing no more than 1,500 words.

All entries should address this year’s theme and must meet the following criteria:
- A well annotated and clear map
- Good use of images, data and other sources
- Excellent attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Use of accurate geographical terminology
- Accurate use of symbols, scales and keys.
- Original and independently produced- class sets of identical entries will not be accepted or entries which have copied information from other sources, such as the internet.
- If produced electronically, please use a minimum font size of point 10

We do not have a preferred style of map. We are looking for eye-catch[ing], innovative, informative and accurate maps which reveal how Covid has shaped young peoples’ geographical understanding of their local area. YGOTY 2021 supports the Society’s work on the ‘mapping home’ strand of www.stayhomestories.co.uk which is researching how the pandemic changed our relationship to home.

Key Stage 2 criteria. Describe two or more features on their map using annotated images or diagrams
Key Stage 3 criteria. Describe four or more features on their map using annotated images or diagrams
Key Stage 4 criteria. Describe at least six geographical features using annotated images, data and diagrams
Key Stage 5 criteria. Describe and discuss multiple geographical features, through a strong use of annotated images, diagrams and data. Submitted as an Esri Storymap.

Good Luck!

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