

## Debating Controversial Issues Resources

### Science and the Media

#### Antenna



Antenna is a world first - a constantly updated series of exhibitions devoted to science news, including breaking stories provided by the BBC. Visit to see the objects behind the headlines and meet scientists in regular live events.

[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/wellcome-wing/antenna/index.asp](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/wellcome-wing/antenna/index.asp)

#### Upd8



Science UPD8 is a new concept – translating the latest breakthroughs and science behind the news, into inspiring activities – and publishing them lightning fast. Quality and ease of use mean that teachers simply “download and go”.

[www.upd8.org.uk](http://www.upd8.org.uk)

### Debate resources

#### Citizen Science



Range of free online resources to assist teachers and other education professionals in debating topical biomedical issues with young people. Resources aim to build on young people’s knowledge and understanding of contemporary science issues and encourage development of key skills including communication, team working, communication and thinking skills.

[www.at-bristol.org.uk/cz](http://www.at-bristol.org.uk/cz)

#### DEMOCS



**Democs** (Deliberative Meeting Of Citizens) is part card game, part policy-making tool that enables small groups of people to engage with complex public policy issues. It helps people find out about a topic, express their views, seek common ground with the other participants, and state their preferred policy position from a given choice of four.

[www.neweconomics.org/gen/democs.aspx](http://www.neweconomics.org/gen/democs.aspx) OR [www.e-democs.com](http://www.e-democs.com)

#### The Wellcome Trust



The Wellcome Trust is an independent charity funding research to improve human and animal health. Education resources including:

The Big Picture Series: provides teachers and post-16 students with up-to-date information on research findings in biomedicine and the social and ethical implications of this research.

Teaching packs: two schools resources aimed at 14-19 students exploring the ethics of genetics and providing practical examples of cognitive psychology experiments.

Citizenship units: produced by the Wellcome Trust and the Association for Science Education to illustrate themes for teaching science and citizenship.

[www.wellcome.ac.uk/knowledgecentre/education/](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/knowledgecentre/education/)

#### The British Association



The BA is a UK-wide organisation dedicated to connecting science with people, so that science and its applications become accessible to all. It has on-line support to give teachers ideas for facilitating debates in the classroom.

[www.the-ba.net/resourcesforlearning](http://www.the-ba.net/resourcesforlearning)

#### Genetic Futures



As part of the Genetic Futures project (funded by the Royal Society, NESTA, MRC, BBSRC, Department of Health and BioRad) Sheffield Hallam University created resources to support teachers and provide opportunities for pupils to think and talk about the potential benefits and problems of an advance in DNA technology.

[www.extra.shu.ac.uk/cse/geneticfutures/talk.htm](http://www.extra.shu.ac.uk/cse/geneticfutures/talk.htm)



### Dana Centre

Is a place for people to take part in exciting, informative and **innovative** debates about contemporary science, technology and culture. State-of-the-art digital facilities link the Centre and its events with venues all over the UK. If you can't make it to the Dana Centre in person, you can join the debate on-line. Under the 'about us' section of the Dana Centre website, is a section called event DIY. Although not specifically for teachers, they are meant for anyone organising dialogue events, they do contain information on how to plan, run and evaluate dialogue events.

[www.danacentre.org.uk](http://www.danacentre.org.uk)

### Darwin Centre



The Darwin Centre offers you the chance to take a peek into the world of cutting-edge natural science research. Discover more about the work of the Museum's curators and researchers at the exciting **Darwin Centre Live events**. Visitors and live web audiences can join the experts in topical discussions about the science world and explore a fascinating range of natural science subjects. Sessions usually take place daily. You can also view video **archives** of many live events and transcripts are available on demand.

[www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/galleries/darwin-centre/darwin-centre-live](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/galleries/darwin-centre/darwin-centre-live)

### Ecsite-UK



Ecsite-uk's purpose is to raise the profile of science centres, and to establish their role as a forum for dialogue between science specialists and the public and as an informal learning resource for learners of all ages. Information for the UK science and discovery centre community is available on-line it also may highlight if your local science centre is holding special meet the expert events.

[www.ecsite-uk.net](http://www.ecsite-uk.net)



### University of Saskatchewan

Instructional strategies determine the approach a teacher may take to achieve learning objectives. Interactive instruction relies heavily on discussion and sharing among participants. Students can learn from peers and teachers to develop social skills and abilities, to organise their thoughts, and to develop rational arguments. This website gives you resources for facilitating debates.

[www.olec.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/instr/strats/debates/resource.html](http://www.olec.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/instr/strats/debates/resource.html)

### Citizenship Education Wales



CEWC-Cymru (Council for Education in World Citizenship-Cymru) is an educational charity working with young people to promote active global citizenship in Wales. Specifically created for Welsh teachers the website has a comprehensive resource pack for teachers on how to run and organise debates and dialogues in the classroom.

[www.cewc-cymru.org.uk/](http://www.cewc-cymru.org.uk/)

### Council of Europe



The Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC) includes all practices and activities designed to help young people and adults participate actively in democratic life by accepting and exercising their rights and responsibilities in society. There are many good resources for encouraging active citizenship.

[www.coe.int/edc](http://www.coe.int/edc)

### The Wales Debating Federation



The Wales Debating Federation is a voluntary organisation that works to promote and support debating in schools, colleges and Universities in Wales. The Wales Debating Federation is run by debaters in schools and Universities across the UK as well as individuals and teachers who have assisted in training debaters or judging debates over many years. There are also many online resources.

[www.walesdebate.org.uk](http://www.walesdebate.org.uk)



### **The school debating championship**

The World Schools Debating Championships (WSDC) is a truly global competition for high school debaters. The Championships take place each year in a different country, hosted by a national debating body.

[www.schoolsdebate.com](http://www.schoolsdebate.com)

### **Deatabase**

The Deatabase claims to be the world's most useful resource for student debaters. Inside you will find arguments for and against hundreds of debating topics, written by expert debaters, judges and coaches. Also included are background summaries, links to web sites of interest and recommended books, example motions and user comments.

[www.deatabase.org](http://www.deatabase.org)



## **General Debate information**

### **The Citizens Handbook**

Overview of the different types of public consultation methods it also looks at their strengths and weaknesses. Teachers can apply these to different topics instead of running a straight discussion model.

[www.vcn.bc.ca/citizens-handbook/compareparticipation.pdf](http://www.vcn.bc.ca/citizens-handbook/compareparticipation.pdf)

### **ASE - Association for science Education**

The ASE exists to improve the teaching of science and promoting education by providing an authoritative medium through which the opinions of teachers of science may be expressed on educational matters. It also aims to provide a means of communication among all persons and bodies of persons concerned with the teaching of science in particular and education in general.

[www.ase.org.uk](http://www.ase.org.uk)



## **External professionals**

### **University of Bristol**

Aims to Engage with the public, raising awareness and public participation in research at the University. It also wishes to encourage more researchers to get involved in talking with the public to improve the quality of the University's public engagement. Experts listed will be happy to help you if you are looking to recruit an expert.

<http://www.bris.ac.uk/ias/collier/communicators/>



### **Teacher Scientist Network (Wales)**

Aims to link active research scientists with teachers in local schools, to give an added dimension to National Curriculum and A-Level Science. Long-term partnerships are formed between scientists and teachers, with the scientist making regular visits into school to give lectures or run workshops.

[www.techniquet.org/schools.php?id=tsn](http://www.techniquet.org/schools.php?id=tsn)



### **Teacher Scientist Network (Norfolk)**

The TSN is a scheme that puts the scientific community of the Norwich Research Park into contact with the teachers of science in the Norfolk Education Community. The core activity is a network of one-to-one teacher-scientist partnerships.

[www.tsn.org.uk](http://www.tsn.org.uk)

### **BBSRC local coordinators schemes**

The BBSRC local coordinator scheme encourages BBSRC-supported scientists to develop links with schools by providing funding to help establish and maintain contacts and set up activities in a 'cluster' of local schools.

[www.bbsrc.ac.uk/society/schools/local.html](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/society/schools/local.html)



### Researchers in Residence

The MRC works in partnership with other organisations to help teachers and students capture the excitement of science. By promoting links between scientists and schools and contributing to the development of educational resources, MRC is helping to build the foundation for lifelong engagement in science. Researchers in Residence is a scheme that encourages and enables PhD students to spend some time in secondary school science departments working alongside teachers and pupils.

[www.mrc.ac.uk/index/public-interest/public-schools.htm](http://www.mrc.ac.uk/index/public-interest/public-schools.htm)

### Y-Touring

Through creating high quality theatre and drama this group aims to highlight important, often difficult, current issues and empower its audiences of young people and adults to generate change in themselves, others and society. It also provides avenues for discussion

<http://www.ytouring.org.uk/>

## Funding Opportunities

### The Royal Society

The Royal Society's Partnership Grants scheme funds schools to work with practising scientists or engineers - we offer up to £2500 to facilitate these partnerships, where the teacher and scientist/engineer work together with the pupils on hands-on, interesting, exciting projects or investigations of their choice.

[www.royalsoc.ac.uk/partnership](http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/partnership)

### Nuffield Science Bursaries

The Medical Research Council is helping to build the foundation for lifelong engagement in science as a sponsor of the Nuffield Science Bursaries it aims to enable students to work with MRC scientists on their A level research projects.

[www.mrc.ac.uk/index/public-interest/public-schools.htm](http://www.mrc.ac.uk/index/public-interest/public-schools.htm)

### BBSRC small grants for Public Engagement

BBSRC announce a small grants scheme to support public engagement activities for up to **£5000**. Priority will be given to applications that focus on dialogue with public groups, particularly adults and hard-to-reach groups such as ethnic minorities, inner city communities or those with special needs.

[www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/peawards.html](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/peawards.html)

### Royal Society - Education Partnership Grants

Maybe you're a teacher with a great idea for a science project? Or perhaps a scientist or an engineer who would like to be more involved with your local school? The Royal Society's Partnership Grants scheme could be just what you're looking for. Awards up to £3000

[www.royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?id=1948](http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?id=1948)

### National Science Week - BBSRC, MRC, NERC Small Grant Awards for Public Engagement.

National Science Week Awards are BBSRC funded researchers and PhD students are eligible to apply for these awards of up to £2000, to run public engagement activities during National Science Week 2006 (10-19 March).

[www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/sciweekawards.html](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/sciweekawards.html)

## Topic specific resources

### Animal Research:

#### Ethics, Morality and Animal Biotechnology

In **Ethics, Morality and Animal Biotechnology** Roger Straughan examines the ethical, moral and social issues surrounding relatively recent developments that involve the genetic modification of animals, and cloning by nuclear transfer, downloadable resource available.

[www.bbsrc.ac.uk/society/schools/resources/ethics/Welcome.html](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/society/schools/resources/ethics/Welcome.html)





### **Association of Medical Research Charities**

AMRC is a membership organisation of the leading UK charities that fund medical and health research. The AMRC website has links to information aimed at young people on the issue of animal use in medical research.

[www.amrc.org.uk/index.asp?id=12085](http://www.amrc.org.uk/index.asp?id=12085)

### **BioEthics;**

#### **BioEthics Education Project**

Students can find information on a wide range of bioethical issues, activities and challenges online discussion to help you practice argument. Teachers can find teaching resources matched to A level syllabi and peer support through online discussion

[www.beep.ac.uk/content/index.php](http://www.beep.ac.uk/content/index.php)

