

BBC LEARNING PRIMARY SCIENCE CAMPAIGN

BRIEF TO SCIENCE RESEARCHERS

BBC Learning is planning a major campaign for 2016/2017 aimed at engaging Key Stage 2 pupils (ages 9-11) with investigative science. This exciting and innovative campaign will revolve around the theme of 'My World' (working title) and will put scientific enquiry at the heart of every element. We are working with a number of key partners on this initiative, including the Wellcome Trust and the Royal Society. Schools will take part in a series of investigations over the course of an academic year – some will be discrete, small-scale experiments but others will be large scale investigations with the possibility of mass data collection from schools across the UK. Results and data could be uploaded to a dedicated 'My World' website to enable children to explore a larger data set and compare their findings with those in different areas of the country. The investigations should focus on the 5 key curriculum areas for year 5 which are; Forces, Animals including Humans, Living Things & Habitats, Properties & Change of Materials and, Earth & Space.

We want to ensure that there is a real sense of purpose underlying all the investigations – we want pupils to feel a sense of achievement and that they are making a valuable contribution by undertaking the tasks.

With all of this in mind, we'd like to hear from researchers with an interest in simple but large-scale data collection from potentially huge numbers of the 9-11 age-group and their daily lives. For example, would you be interested in exploring the sleep patterns of 10 year olds? Could the daily recording of weather conditions in every school in the UK give you some data that might otherwise be inaccessible? We're keen to hear from YOU about what you are looking for and, if your project fits with our plans, we will work with you to devise the investigations that pupils will undertake through 'My World.'

Please note that we have no dedicated funding available for this research, but it may be eligible for other sources of funding for public engagement activities. While the data would be publicly available, the scientists involved would be able to ensure that it was relevant to their own interests and could be used as a basis for their further analyses and publications.

If you are interested in getting involved in this unique opportunity to inspire the next generation in science whilst also generating valuable research data, please send a brief (no more than 300 words) outline of your research project and how it might fit with the BBC Learning Science campaign to: my.world@bbc.co.uk

Closing Date: 15th February 2016

