

EUN and Science & Maths projects



**Network of 31
Ministries of
Education in Europe**



**Support schools in
bringing about the best
use
of technology in learning**



**Promote the European
dimension in schools
and education**



**Improve and raise
the quality of education
in Europe**



LEARNING RESOURCE EXCHANGE FOR SCHOOLS

Xperimania

FROM MOLECULES TO MATERIALS

English ▼

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ABOUT XPERIMANIA

Have you ever wondered about the materials around you?

Project background

Attracting young talent has become a major challenge for the chemical industry



About the project

Concentrating on chemistry and physics, Xperimania aims to boost young people's interest in science, which is a priority for Europe to remain a knowledge-based economy fostering innovation. Xperimania helps students in secondary school classes (pupils aged 10-20) and their teachers to understand the wide variety of applications of chemistry, and how this fascinating science has contributed to the evolution of many day-to-day items. Participating in the following activities provides students with a unique opportunity to stimulate their scientific and analytical skills [...]

world, be it in answering energy needs, addressing climate change or improving our health must be a priority.

There are many type of jobs available within the field of chemistry and the availability of a qualified and skilled labour force is essential for the long term viability and innovative capacity of the European chemical industry.



2007



www.xperimania.net - www.eun.org

Xperimania

VON MOLEKÜLEN ZU MATERIALIEN

Xperimania
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Home - Timeline

TIMELINE

Explore a scientific discovery in the field of materials, discovered in the petrochemical sector from 1800 to the present day. With your students, investigate a discovery and produce a digital resource describing what you have found out about the discovery.

The competition side of the "Timeline" activity is closed. English summaries of the top Xperimania 1 submissions are presented in [this booklet](#). "Timeline" continues as a non-competitive school activity. All new submission will be displayed in the Timeline and in the online gallery.

[See the winners](#)

DOWNLOAD  KEY DOCUMENTS 

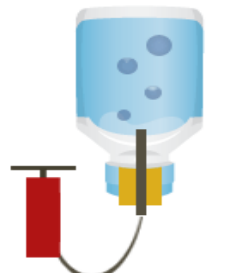
Take part to 

1800 1850 1900 1950 2000

Browse entries by:

All Countries

Number of contributions: 263



Xperimania
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Home - Competition

CHOOSE YOUR EXPERIMENT

- Watch it wash
- Watch it bounce
- Watch the difference
- Watch it flow
- Watch the date
- Watch it launch
- See the sound
- Watch the elasticity
- Take the difference
- Feel the difference

CHOOSE YOUR EXPERIMENT

Set up an easy and fun experiment relating to petrochemistry and materials.

According to the age group, choose your experiment from the left menu or choose your own experimental setup.

The competition side of the "Choose your experiment" activity is now closed. English summaries of the top Xperimania 1 submissions are presented in [this booklet](#).

"Choose your experiment" continues as a non-competitive school activity. All new submission will be displayed in the online gallery.

[See the winners](#)

ADD YOUR OWN EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

Browse entries by:

All Countries

Number of contributions: 191



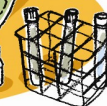
Grid of 12 small thumbnail images representing different experimental setups, each with a small flag icon and text below it.

Explore a scientific discovery in the field of materials, discovered in the petrochemical sector from 1800 to the present day.

Set up an easy and fun experiment relating to petrochemistry and materials.

**Xperimania 2007/08:
400+ entries**

**~ 1000 participants from 18 European countries
45,000 visitors to the website**



Home » Activities » Air and cold protection

- Air and cold protection
- Lightweight
- Electrical insulation
- Energy efficiency
- Water resistance
- Combustion
- Resistance to bases
- Resistance to acids
- Rules
- Guidelines
- List of properties
- Take part!

AIR AND COLD PROTECTION

| Properties of polyurethane fibres | Uses |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Stretchy | - Swimsuits - Leotards - Underwear |
| Thermal protection | - Gloves and mittens |

Experiment:

Grab ice cubes with:

- your bare hands
- woollen mittens
- kitchen gloves
- snow gloves

Leading questions:

- How long can you stand the cold in each case?
- Do your hands get wet?
- Can you explain what's happening?
- Can you set-up other easy experiments to test this action?
- Can you find applications of this property?

Click "Download" to get the full kit. To up
... only click "Take



Chats:

On Petrochemistry
in different
languages

Students will research the chosen property, find out a way to test it and explain the results in a clear and structured way in order to enable others to understand it and to learn from the presented example.

Activities:
Check out
the
property!

- * 13 languages
- ~ 450 entries
- ~ 1500 students
- ~ 21 countries

Xperimania II
2008 - 2009

Xperimania III

FROM MOLECULES TO MATERIALS

HOME | ABOUT | NEWS | **XPERIMANIA AMBASSADORS**

Home » Home

GET READY FOR THE XPERIMANIA SCIENCE AMBASSADORS



Do you want to show your students the coolest chemistry and physics tricks and get yourself new ideas for your science classes? This year Xperimania sends science ambassadors right into the classroom to demonstrate the fun side of science - and your school can be one of their destinations!

Xperimania III - 2009/10

- * 432 schools from 24 countries applied
- * 7 schools selected:
 - * Romania: Traian Vuia in Maramures
 - * Portugal: E.B. 2,3 de Alcanede in Alcanede
 - * Slovenia: Osnovna šola heroja Janeza Hribarja in Stari trg pri Ložu
 - * United Kingdom: Bartley Green School, St Francis Primary School and Highters Heath Community School in Birmingham
 - * Spain: IES J. Ibáñez Martín in Lorca
- * 18 workshops ~ 400 students → All 432 schools!

Moving fish

- ◆ Properties: water absorption
- ◆ Observe what happens when a small fish made of a thin piece of cellophane is placed on your palm. Why does the fish move and curl around? Why doesn't it move on the table?



The fish reacts to water, i.e. to the moisture of hands, and starts to curl around by lifting its head and tail. This happens because cellophane absorbs water.

Periodic table

- ◆ Properties: heat sensitivity
- ◆ Observe what happens when you touch the special paper with a periodic table. Why does the paper change colour and display the fingerprint? Does this happen if it is touched with a pen or a glove? Why does the fingerprint disappear after a while?



The periodic tables are made of a heat sensitive paper which reacts to the warmth of the body, or a heater, by changing colour.

Magic bracelet

- ◆ Properties: light sensitivity
- ◆ Observe what happens when a bracelet made of white beads is taken outside. Why does the bracelet change colour? Why do the beads turn white when taken back to the classroom?



The beads contain photochromatic dyes. Their molecular shape changes with exposure to ultraviolet (UV) light caught from the sun, changing the colour. The beads also change colour on a cloudy day, which proves that the clouds don't totally block the UV light.



Making snow

- ◆ Properties: water absorption
- ◆ Find out why nappies keep baby's pants dry. Observe what is inside a nappy and how it reacts to water. What is the white powder found in a nappy? What happened to the water when mixed with the powder?



- Competition 1
- Competition 2
- Rules

XPERIMANIA RETURNS WITH "EQUALITY"

Over the last 3 years Xperimania has successfully run outreach projects in secondary schools across Europe on a variety of chemistry, particularly petrochemistry, topics. Within the framework of the International Year of Chemistry - [IYC](#) - 2011, Xperimania is organising two competitions on the "role of women in chemistry".

Students are invited to participate in the competitions, which are directly linked to the theme of the IYC: "Chemistry - our life, our future". The proposed activities can be integrated either into lessons (such as science, language or social sciences) or can be organised as a cross-curriculum activity involving several teachers.

The competitions are open to upper secondary school pupils aged between 14 and 21 years old. The objectives are to:

- *Raise awareness of the role of women in chemistry.*
- *Increase the interest of female students in the subject.*
- *Fight the stereotype that chemistry is a "male subject" both at school and in career choice.*

The competitions will be open from 14 February until 30 September 2011, with prizes being awarded in both.

You can download the Equality brochures from the [Press material](#) section.

Portrait of a woman chemist



To apply, students should formulate a portrait of a woman from their country who has a career in chemistry or petrochemistry.

[Read more](#)

Create a campaign on women and chemistry



To submit an entry in this category, students and teachers are required to design an awareness-raising campaign to increase the interest of female students in chemistry.

[Read more](#)



Xperimania IV - 2010/11
February 14

Xperimania I to IV

Xperimania I: Materials

Xperimania II: Properties

Xperimania III: Ambassadors

Xperimania IV: Equality

Languages: 23 – 13 – 6

Participation:

Countries: 18 – 21 – 24

Students: 1,000 – 1,500 – 400(*)

Visitors: 7,000 – 13,000 per month

Type of participants: **XP I = XP II \neq XP III \neq XP IV** (countries + schools)

Dashboard

Jan 9, 2007 - Feb 8, 2011



