



THEME: Building Resilient Communities: Collaborative Strategies for Fire Risk Reduction

Venue: City of Windhoek, Independence Avenue

SCHOOL COMPETITION GUIDELINES

General Information

- Entry is free of charge.
- Each school may only submit three (3) entries per category.
- The date for the prize-giving ceremony will be communicated to the schools:
 - Pre - Grade 7: 1st Prize (N\$500), 2nd Prize (N\$300), 3rd Prize (N\$150) in each category.
 - Grade 8 - Grade 12: 1st Prize (N\$1,000), 2nd Prize (N\$600), 3rd Prize (N\$300) in each category.
- Application forms can be submitted at the Windhoek Fire Brigade Head Quarters or via email to Urivi.Mbingeneeko@windhoekcc.org.na with the subject "Art Competition".
- Submission of artwork/models/projects should be done at the Windhoek Fire Brigade Head Quarters – no submissions via email or any other digital platform will be accepted.
- Note that artwork/models/projects may be used by the Fire Brigade for the further development of educational material, social media, and to display.

Important Dates

- **Application deadline:** 13 August 2026
- **Submission deadline:** 17 September 2026
- **Grade 8 – 10 poem/song interviews:** September 2026 (date to be communicated)
- **Grade 11- 12 science/engineering interviews:** September 2026 (date to be communicated)

Categories, Topics, and Instructions

We are pleased to include a special competition for learners where prizes can be won. Only 3 entries per category:

Category & Topics	Instructions
Category: Pre-school – Grade 1 Topic: “Firefighters Help Our Community”	Learners are required to create an artwork showing firefighters helping people, rescuing animals, or protecting homes during an emergency. Competition Instructions: • Artwork must be completed on A3 size paper only. • Learners may use mixed media, including crayons, colouring pencils, paint, markers, collage, or pastels. • All artwork must be the learner’s original work. • The learner’s details must be clearly written in the bottom right-hand corner of the artwork: ○ Name and Surname ○ School ○ Grade ○ Age • Artwork should be neat, colourful, and relevant to the topic.
Category: Grade 2 – 4 Topic: “Stop, Drop and Roll”	Learners are required to design and create a model that teaches the correct safety steps to follow if clothing catches fire. The model should clearly demonstrate the “Stop, Drop and Roll” fire safety procedure in a creative and educational way. Competition Instructions: • The model must be securely mounted on a board. • The completed model may not exceed the following dimensions: ○ Maximum Width: 30 cm ○ Maximum Length: 60 cm ○ Maximum Height: 30 cm • Learners may use a variety of materials, including clay, cardboard, wood, sticks, hay, wool, wire, fabric, recycled materials, paint, or other suitable craft materials. • The model must be sturdy, neat, and clearly related to the topic. • All artwork must be the learner’s original work. • The learner’s details must be clearly written in the bottom right-hand corner of the board and must include: ○ Name and Surname ○ School ○ Grade ○ Age
Category: Grade 5 – 7 Topic: “Know Your Equipment”	Learners are required to design and construct a 3D model of a fire truck using recyclable materials (e.g. cardboard, plastic bottles, boxes, lids, paper rolls, etc.). The model should demonstrate creativity, functionality, and a clear understanding of fire service equipment.

Category & Topics	Instructions
	Competition Instructions: • The completed model must NOT exceed the following dimensions: ○ Maximum Width: 30 cm ○ Maximum Length: 60 cm ○ Maximum Height: 30 cm • The model must be securely mounted on a sturdy board. • The construction must be neat, stable, and clearly represent a fire truck. • The design must clearly relate to the theme “Know Your Equipment” – Fire Truck. • Only recyclable materials should be used in the construction. • All work must be the learner’s own original creation. No commercial kits or pre-made models are allowed. • The learner’s details must be clearly written in the bottom right-hand corner of the board and must include: ○ Name and Surname ○ School ○ Grade ○ Age
Category: Grade 8 – 10 Topic: “Fire Safety Starts with Me”	Learners are required to write and perform an original poem or song that promotes fire safety and prevention. The work should inspire individuals and communities to practise safe behaviour at home, at school, in the workplace, and in the environment. Competition Instructions: 1. Written Submission Requirements: • Learners must submit a neatly written or typed copy of the original poem or song lyrics. • The work must be entirely the learner’s own original creation. No copied or published poems/songs are allowed. • Must include ○ 1 rhyme pattern (e.g. ABAB or AABB) ○ Must include 2 fire safety rules ○ Must include a repeated chorus line ○ Must use at least 3 emotion words (fear, safety, urgency, etc.) • The following learner details must be clearly indicated at the top of the first page: ○ Name and Surname ○ School ○ Grade ○ Age

Category & Topics	Instructions
	• The title of the poem/song must appear directly below the learner details. • At the bottom of the page the following sentence should appear and be signed by the learner: “I confirm that this work is my own original creation and was not generated using AI tools or copied from any source.” 2. Performance Submission Requirements: • Learners must perform their poem or song in a clear and expressive manner. • The performance must be recorded and submitted on a USB drive. • The USB must be clearly labelled in the same format as the written submission: ○ Name and Surname ○ School ○ Grade ○ Age ○ Title of Poem/Song • The recording must be audible, complete, and clearly show the learner performing their original work. 3. General Guidelines: • Creativity, originality, and clear communication of fire safety messages will be assessed. • The message should strongly promote fire prevention and safe practices in everyday life. • Learners are encouraged to use voice expression, rhythm, and movement where appropriate to enhance their performance. • After submission learners will be selected randomly to explain/clarify their work (a date will be communicated to the school).
Category: Grade 11 – 12 Topic: “Building a Fire-Resilient Community”	Learners are required to design and develop a science/engineering-based project that demonstrates innovation in fire safety and community resilience. The project must involve the creation of a functional model of firefighting equipment or fire-resistant material. Examples may include (but are not limited to) a fire extinguisher model, sprinkler system prototype, heat-resistant material, early fire detection system, or any other relevant firefighting innovation. Competition Instructions: • The project must be science/engineering-based and demonstrate an understanding of fire safety principles. • Learners must build a working model or prototype of firefighting equipment or fire-resistant material.

Category & Topics	Instructions
	• The design must be original and show creativity, innovation, and problem-solving skills. • Only safe, approved, and recyclable or easily accessible materials should be used where possible. • The project must be sturdy, neatly constructed, and clearly linked to the theme of fire resilience in communities. • The learner's details must be clearly written on the model and must include: ○ Name and Surname ○ School ○ Grade ○ Age 1. Written Scientific Report: Each project must be accompanied by a written report that includes: • Title of the project • Name and Surname • School • Grade • Age • Aim of the project (mention the problem that are addressed in this section) • Materials used • Method/procedure (how it was built; include photos of the process) • Scientific/engineering explanation of how it works • Fire safety application (how it helps prevent or manage fire risks in a community) • Conclusion 2. Presentation Requirements: • Learners must be prepared to present and explain their project orally (a date will be communicated to schools). • The presentation should demonstrate understanding of the science/engineering behind the design. • Learners may be asked questions about their project during evaluation. 3. General Guidelines: • Projects must be original and independently developed by the learner. • Creativity, scientific/engineering accuracy, practicality, and relevance to fire safety will be assessed.

Category & Topics	Instructions
	Projects should reflect real-world application in building safer and more fire-resilient communities.

Contact us

For **more information** or to **confirm your school's attendance** and **competition entries**, please contact

Urivi Mbingeneeko at 081 877 0533 or 061 290 or Urivi.Mbingeneeko@windhoekcc.org.na.

Judging Criteria

Pre-School – Grade 1 Judging Criteria (100 Marks)

Topic: “Firefighters Help Our Community”

Criteria	Description	Marks
Relevance to Firefighters Helping the Community	Artwork clearly shows firefighters helping or protecting the community.	20
Identification of Firefighter Equipment and Clothing	Includes recognizable items such as helmet, uniform, fire truck, hose, etc.	15
Inclusion of Community Setting	Shows a clear setting such as homes, school, buildings, or community environment.	15
Creativity and Imagination	Original and imaginative interpretation of the topic.	15
Use of Colour	Appropriate and effective use of colour in the artwork.	10
Neatness and Completion	Work is complete, tidy, and carefully presented. Labelled correctly as per instructions.	15
Originality	Learner’s own independent work with no copying.	10

Grade 2 – 4 Judging Criteria (100 Marks)

Topic: “Stop, Drop and Roll” (Model Project)

Criteria	Description	Marks
Understanding of Fire Safety Procedure	Model clearly demonstrates the correct “Stop, Drop and Roll” process.	20
Inclusion of Fire Safety Elements and Attention to Detail	Appropriate inclusion of elements such as flames, smoke, danger signs, or safety actions related to the topic. Careful inclusion of details that enhance understanding and realism of the model.	20
Construction and Stability of Model	Model is sturdy, well-built, and securely mounted.	15
Creativity and Design	Innovative and visually engaging presentation of the concept.	15
Use of Materials and Presentation	Appropriate use of materials with neat finishing and clear layout.	10
Neatness and Overall Appearance	Model is clean, organised, and carefully assembled. Labelled correctly as per instructions.	10
Originality	Learner’s own work, showing independent effort and ideas.	10

Grade 5 – 7 Judging Criteria (100 Marks)

Topic: “Know Your Equipment” (Fire Truck Model Using Recyclable Materials)

Criteria	Description	Marks
Relevance to Firefighting Equipment	Model clearly represents a fire truck and firefighting equipment related to the topic.	25
Accuracy and Realism of Model; Attention to Detail	Includes realistic firefighting features such as hoses, ladders, lights, tanks, tools, or emergency markings. Careful inclusion of small details that improve the quality and realism of the model.	20
Construction and Stability of Model	Model is sturdy, durable, well-built, and securely mounted.	15
Use of Recyclable Materials	Effective and creative use of recyclable materials in the construction of the model.	15
Functionality and Design Features	Model includes practical design elements that reflect the purpose and operation of a real fire truck.	10
Neatness and Overall Presentation	Model is clean, neatly assembled, and visually appealing. Labelled correctly as per instructions.	10
Originality	Learner’s own independent work and ideas.	5

Grade 8 – 10 Judging Criteria (100 Marks)

Topic: “Fire Safety Starts with Me” (Poem/Song – Written & Performance)

Criteria	Description	Marks
Fire Safety Message and Awareness	Clear, strong, and accurate fire safety message promoting prevention and responsible behaviour.	25
Required Poetic/Song Elements	Must include: 1 rhyme pattern (e.g. ABAB or AABB), 2 fire safety rules, a repeated chorus line, and at least 3 emotion words (e.g. fear, urgency, safety).	20
Relevance to Topic	Content clearly reflects “Fire Safety Starts with Me” and personal/community responsibility.	10
Originality of Poem/Song	Learner’s own creative work with no copying from sources or AI-generated content.	10
Quality of Written Work	Well-structured poem/song lyrics with correct flow, rhythm, and clarity.	10
Performance Delivery and Expression	Confidence, voice projection, expression, and emotional engagement during performance. Performance Tips: Speak or sing clearly and at a steady pace; use voice variation (loud/soft, fast/slow) to show emotion; maintain eye contact with audience or camera; use gestures, movement, or simple actions to support meaning; show emotion linked to the message (urgency, fear, safety, concern); use pauses for effect, especially before/after the chorus; ensure lyrics are memorised or well-read without long breaks	10
Creativity and Impact	Effective use of language and style to make the message memorable. This may include literary devices such as idioms (e.g. “better safe than sorry”), alliteration (e.g. “safe steps save lives”), similes (e.g. “fire spreads like lightning”), metaphors (e.g. “fire is a hungry monster”), repetition (e.g. chorus lines like “Fire safety starts with me!”), rhyme, and personification (e.g. “flames danced”).	10

Grade 11 – 12 Judging Criteria (100 Marks)

Topic: “Building a Fire-Resilient Community” (Science / Engineering Project)

Criteria	Description	Marks
Fire Safety Relevance and Problem Identification	Clearly identifies a real fire safety problem in a community and addresses how it can be reduced or solved.	25
Scientific Understanding and Accuracy	Demonstrates correct scientific principles related to fire behaviour, prevention, or firefighting systems.	15
Engineering Design and Functionality; Testing, Results, or Demonstration Evidence	Project is well-designed, functional, and shows how the equipment/material would realistically work in practice; Shows evidence of testing, improvement, or demonstration of how the project performs.	25
Innovation and Problem-Solving	Original and creative solution that shows critical thinking and engineering innovation, clearly addressing and solving an identified fire safety problem.	10
Construction Quality and Stability	Model/prototype is strong, stable, well-built, and safe to demonstrate.	10
Use of Materials and Efficiency	Appropriate, safe, and resource-efficient use of materials in the design.	5
Presentation and Communication	Clear oral explanation of the project, including how it works and its fire safety benefit.	5
Written Scientific Report Quality	Complete, well-structured report including aim, method, materials, findings, and conclusion. Labelled correctly as per instructions.	5