

Young Scientist Denmark – Supporting the Next Generation of STEM Talent

Inspiring children and young people to shape Denmark's future through science and technology)

Young Scientist Denmark (Unge Forskere) is a nationwide non-profit program for school students with an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The program reaches children and young people across Denmark, from primary school to upper secondary school.

Young Scientist Denmark runs Denmark's largest national science and technology competition for students. The program helps young people develop ideas, work with scientific methods, and turn curiosity into real projects. It identifies and supports talented students while also strengthening general science education and interest in STEM subjects.

The program is active throughout Denmark. Students participate from schools in all regions, and the jury includes professionals from universities, schools, and industry across the country.

The project runs from January 2026 to December 2027. The two-year period allows for long-term planning and stable development of the program.

Students participate in one of two main tracks:

- Junior (primary school)
- Senior (upper secondary school)

Projects are submitted within Life Science, Physical Science, or Technology. Students can work alone or in small teams. Younger pupils can also join through My Wildest Idea, a creative idea and illustration contest.

Nearly 200 volunteer jury members assess the projects. They provide professional feedback and guidance, helping students improve their work and learn from the process. At the final event, the top projects are awarded, but all participants receive constructive feedback.

When children and young people work with STEM, they build critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and confidence. These skills are important for their future and for society as a whole. Supporting young STEM talent helps secure Denmark's ability to innovate, grow, and develop sustainable solutions.

Many ideas developed by participants address real-world challenges, including the green transition and technological development. The program inspires more young people to choose STEM education and careers. By supporting Young Scientist Denmark, COWIfonden helps invest in Denmark's future talents while supporting innovation, education, and sustainable development.