RESPECT STORIES FAQ

The Respect Stories competition is part of the Australian Government’s *Stop it at the Start* campaign.

The purpose is to prompt school aged children to think deeply about respect and disrespect and what it means to them. The competition also acts as a conversation starter, giving adults a launchpad to discuss respect with the young people in their lives.

Please find information about the competition below and if you have further questions, please email respect@dss.gov.au

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| FAQ | ANSWER |
| How do I enter? | To enter please download and fill out the entry form via [respect.gov.au/RespectStories](file:///C:\Users\NB0060\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\962JW2MU\respect.gov.au\RespectStories)  A parent or guardian signature is required on the entry form. Your entry will not be valid without this.  Please send your poem, story, essay or drawing to respect@dss.gov.au along with your signed entry form. |
| Who can enter the competition? | Any student enrolled in an Australian school aged 10-14 years-old (must be 14 or under as of their entry submission date). |
| What is the competition period? | The competition opens at 9:00am Tuesday 31 May 2022 and closes at 11:59pm AEST on Sunday 14 August 2022. |
| When will the winners be announced? | Winners will be announced August 2022. |
| What is the competition prize? | There will be eight winning written entries and two winning illustration entries.  Each winner will:  • feature in a nation-wide Respect Stories book  • receive a $500 VISA gift card for themselves and a $500 VISA gift card for their school library  • receive two copies of the Respect Stories book, one for themselves and one for their school |
| What is the word length? | The written work can be up to 1,000 words. |
| If I don’t write a story, can I still enter? | Yes, you can also write a poem or essay. If writing isn’t for you, we also encourage illustration entries. The two winning illustration entries selected will feature throughout the Respect Stories book – helping to illustrate the winning written work. |
| Do I need to submit a rationale along with a drawn/creative submission? | Yes, an artist statement of up to 200 words is required with an illustrated submission. This should describe how you have used drawing to show what respect means to you. |
| Can I enter without a parent or guardian signature? | No, a parent or guardian signature is required on the entry form. Your entry will not be valid without this. |
| How are the winners chosen? | Winners will be chosen based off a judging-criteria by the Judging Committee. |
| How many entries can I submit? | Only one entry is permitted per Eligible Entrant. |
| Is there a fee for entry? | No, it is free to enter. |
| What type of file should I send in my entry? | Please send your story as a PDF, or Word document.  A scan or photograph of written work will also be accepted. You can share your drawing by scanning it and sharing as a PDF, JPEG, PNG or EPS along with your written artist’s statement. Please attach these as well as your entry form to respect@dss.gov.au |
| What if I miss the submission date? | Late entries will not be accepted. Please ensure your entry is sent across by Sunday 14 August 11:59pm AEST. |
| How can schools, education and community organisations get involved? | We encourage schools, community groups and other organisations to promote the Respect Stories competition and motivate those in their community aged 10-14 years-old to enter.  For further involvement, schools and other youth/education organisations could set the Respect Stories task as an in-class activity or as homework.  Find competition resources at [respect.gov.au/RespectStories.](file:///C:\Users\NB0060\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\962JW2MU\respect.gov.au\RespectStories) |

Head to [respect.gov.au/RespectStories](file:///C:\Users\NB0060\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\962JW2MU\respect.gov.au\RespectStories) for more information

A joint Australian, state and territory government initiative.

Violence Against Women – Let’s *Stop it at the Start*