



Chemistry Connect is a novel initiative on Think Quest to celebrate the International Year of Chemistry 2011. The initiative is powered by involvement of distinguished members of the scientific fraternity from India, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Indonesia and other countries in Asia Pacific. Global celebrations of IYC 2011 are being lead by UNESCO and IUPAC who are official partners with the unifying theme “Chemistry—*our life, our future*”

### The Connect: ThinkQuest and IYC2011

“Get involved in big ideas of your time” Barbara Bush

The high profile idea of IYC 2011 activates a natural affinity for the cause. We at ThinkQuest are in a unique position to *catalyse* the celebrations by providing an on-line collaborative platform to bond hundreds of schools, hybridise ideas and initiate a chain reaction of participation.

ThinkQuest member schools will

The goals of IYC2011 are to increase the public appreciation of chemistry in meeting world needs, to encourage interest in chemistry among young people, and to generate enthusiasm for the creative future of chemistry.



- *Charge* the school atmosphere with chemistry having students chemistry inspired and make this an irreversible reaction.
- Appreciate chemistry as a central science before it diffuses into other disciplines thereby nucleating its inherent importance.
- Make chemistry teaching inventive in schools transitioning from theoretical approach to inquiry based as per postulates of scientific method.
- Deduce that chemistry learning through experiments, analysis, brainstorming and project designing is a 24 carat experience.
- Galvanize young people towards careers in chemistry and lead them to those campuses.
- Fuel research in domains that provide solutions to vexing problems of energy, sustainable development, health, materials and food production.
- Transfer experiences, data ,observations, results and initiatives into ThinkQuest Projects, blogs, videos to amalgamate into a ThinkQuest International'12 competition entry.
- Relate comfortably with use of skype and other digital options and make it an ideal medium to learn in 21<sup>st</sup> century

## Format of the Initiative

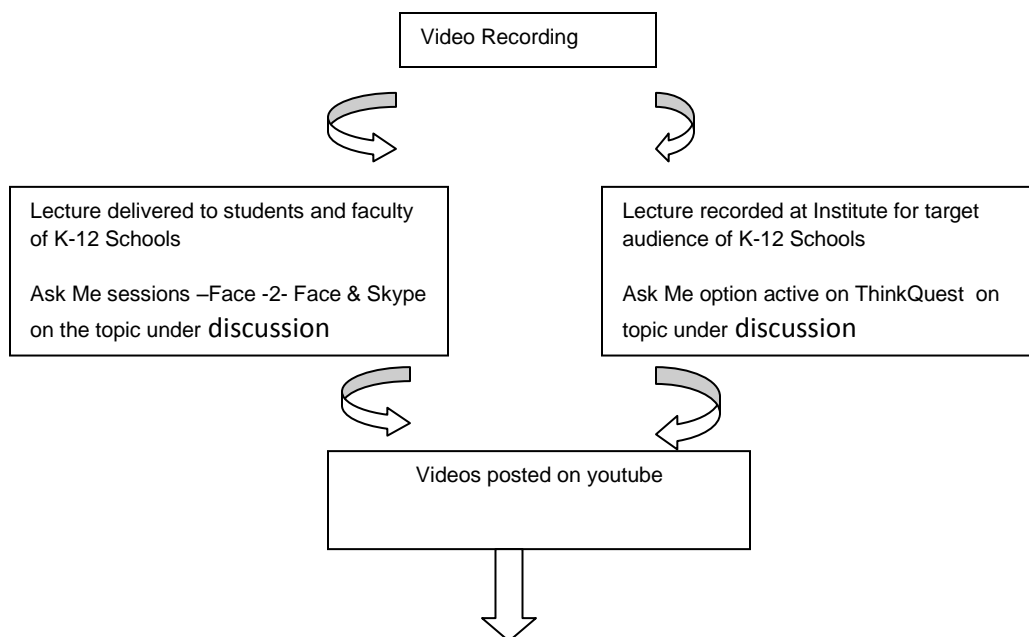
### Structural Format

- **Lecture series** delivered by scientists of international repute and from premier institutes of science. These will be highly interactive
- **Q & A series** with the scientist for conceptual clarity and to trigger out-of-the-box thinking
- **Think Along** –The ideas planted by thought leaders in science to add to the catalogue of activities planned at school and provoke career thoughts in chemistry. Aerate project ideas provided by scientists.
- **Get UpFront** – Arrange talks in morning assembly, organize symposia conferences, exhibitions, meetings, quizzes, art series, video competitions, design prototypes, stage plays etc in the school.
- **Configure Theme Projects** –Initiate projects on ThinkQuest on emerging and exciting topics like green technology, green fuels, environment friendly materials, freshwater from sea, renewable & non-conventional sources of energy, culinary chemistry, cosmetic chemistry and many more. Explore diverse options offered by World Wide Web.
- **Join Hands** –Collaborate with schools through Master Project *OEF: Chemistry Connect*.
- **Create a Buzz** –Round up the celebrations with a mega event at school.
- **Campaign Trail** – 50 Schools Participating actively in Chemistry Connect to receive souvenir/Roll of Honor signed by the scientist

In partnership with the United Nations, the International Year of Chemistry will make a strong educational contribution toward the goals of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, particularly in the key action areas of *health* and *environment*.



### Delivery Format



The year 2011 marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry awarded to *Marie Sklodowska Curie*, recognizing her discovery of the elements radium and polonium.



Videos hosted on the ThinkQuest Project  
OEF: *Chemistry Connect*  
[http://www.thinkquest.org/pls/html/f?p=projects:100:146598475::::P100\\_ID:703062713](http://www.thinkquest.org/pls/html/f?p=projects:100:146598475::::P100_ID:703062713)

Ask Me option on TQ set up  
Best 20 questions by students answered by scientists

Early majority- within 5 days  
Early Bird -4 gifts from ThinkQuest.  
Winner to design a personal page on the topic on ThinkQuest

*Number not binding*

Late majority within 10 days  
2 Gifts from ThinkQuest.  
Winner to design a personal page on the topic on ThinkQuest.

*Number not binding*

Each participating school to work @ two levels

- Create Master Project to show case school celebrations of IYC 2011- Top 50 schools to receive Roll of Honor signed by Scientist.
- Design in all 5 (minimum) TQ projects, blogs, videos public announcement system, websites etc which will enter TQI '2012. These are to be hyperlinked to the master project of the school

**Activity Period** – June to October 2011

### The Launch

- First Lecture –June 10 on the topic **Seeing Atoms and Molecules** by Senior Professor Lakshmi Narayanan of Raman Research Institute, Bangalore.
- TQ Project OEF: *Chemistry Connect* - Available by June 20'11.

[http://www.thinkquest.org/pls/html/f?p=projects:100:146598475::::P100\\_ID:703062713](http://www.thinkquest.org/pls/html/f?p=projects:100:146598475::::P100_ID:703062713)

### Lecture Density

- Minimum 8 over 4 months

### Target audience

- Lectures will aim to address diverse age groups in K-12 system

### **Association Advantage**

- The program provides activation energy to transform your school level IYC celebrations from good to great one.
- Schools get to sign up with IYC and record their activity @ <http://www.chemistry2011.org/>.
- Opportunity to connect with scientists and schools beyond immediate environs.
- Best questions from students and actively participating schools acknowledged.
- Schools get prepared and acquire confidence to participate in the ThinkQuest International competition 2012.
- The Project OEF: *Chemistry Connect* is available to students and teachers for reference and makes a valuable resource bank.

### **Guidelines for Participation**

- All ThinkQuest member schools can participate in the Chemistry Connect Initiative.
- Only one first question per student per lecture will be considered for identifying the best question.
- Only schools with a minimum of 300 active accounts on ThinkQuest can qualify for the roll of honor. Of these a minimum of 200 should be members of the school based project Chemistry Connect.
- Schools that wish to be considered among the top fifty should register in the message board as per country allotment .They are to provide the link of the school project that captures action on campus through IYC 2011.Links provided elsewhere are considered invalid.
- The decision of the core committee is final.

Chemistry Connect is a forum for all stake holders, teachers, students, scientists, administrators thought leaders to become learners and devotees at the altar of chemistry in the service of mankind.

Do join us in this exclusive initiative and you will be proud to be associated with it.

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## Participation Guidelines in Chemical Connect

### Individual ThinkQuest Members

- Log into ThinkQuest.- Get connected to the project space OEF :Chemistry Connect .These are the steps
  - Copy paste the URL  
[http://www.thinkquest.org/pls/html/f?p=projects:project\\_summary:146598475:::100:P100\\_ID:703062713](http://www.thinkquest.org/pls/html/f?p=projects:project_summary:146598475:::100:P100_ID:703062713)
- Go through the pages of the project .Each lecture series will be posted on ThinkQuest. Listen to them carefully.
  - **For Students:** On the topic under discussion you are invited to ask your question. Best 20 questions will be answered by the scientist. Ensure you ask a thought provoking and analytical question that triggers a new line of thought. You are entitled to ask just one question .The question should be brief and precise. You can be disqualified for not adhering to guidelines.
  - We have set up 2 types of Ask Me options–Early Majority, Late Majority. Be among the early majority. You have a greater chance of winning a gift To qualify for the gift you must create one personal page with focus on the topic
  - **For Teachers** - On educational themes set up projects, start blogging. Refer ideas and activities shared by the scientist.

### Teacher administrator (Teacher /Principal)/ Any active teacher on ThinkQuest

- Each School should start a master project under the name Chemical Connect –IYC 2011. (Only one)
- Assign a minimum of 200 students to the project. Interested teachers are also made members of the project.
- Enlist a minimum of 5 projects which the school is carrying out as a part of IYC 2011.Provide hyperlinks
- Upload pictures of celebrations, events, activities at school. The project should be completed by Oct 31'11.
- For your school to be considered for the Roll of Honor provide a hyperlink to the message board created for your country in the project space OEF: Chemistry Connect

### What qualifies the school for the Roll of Honor

- Consistent participation in the program .The school should have participated in atleast 75% of the interactive series brought to them as a part of Chemistry Connect.
- The following requirements are met
  - Designing a master project space in the school with 200 members.
  - School has a minimum 300 active accounts on ThinkQuest
  - 5 complete projects related to topics are hyperlinked in the master project .These should be based on different topics presented during Chemistry Connect.
  - The work done is of high quality, is original and creative.

For more details please visit the project OEF: Chemistry Connect

References: <http://www.chemistry2011.org/about-iyf/introduction>