



Britannica School Science Program Wins SIMO Award

Pathways: Science Honored in Madrid

SYDNEY, December 3, 2013— Britannica Digital Learning announced today that, its online program Pathways: Science that helps students in Years 6 to 10 overcome science misconceptions, has won a SIMO Educational Innovation Award from the Spanish national convention organiser IFEMA, la Institución Ferial de Madrid.



[Britannica Digital Learning](#) announced today that Pathways: Science, its online program that helps students in Years 6-10 overcome science misconceptions, has won a SIMO Educational Innovation Award from the Spanish national convention organiser IFEMA, la Institución Ferial de Madrid.

The SIMO Awards are given for excellence in educational technology. “Pathways: Science continues to receive an enthusiastic reception everywhere it’s available in the world,” said Michael Ross, general manager of Britannica Digital Learning and a senior vice president with Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. “Science misconceptions are a problem everywhere, and this program addresses them in a way that works in any country.”

Designed for classrooms in Years 6 to 10, [Pathways: Science](#) covers key topics in the curriculum, addressing misunderstandings that frequently confuse students. For example, many students believe that seasons change based on the Earth’s distance from the Sun, when in fact it’s the changing tilt of the Earth’s rotational axis in relation to the Sun that causes the change in seasons

The program tackles these problems with structured lessons in which students explore and test their assumptions with authoritative sources of data and information. Each Pathways lesson starts with a probing question to which students respond, expressing their existing beliefs about the topic. They then explore their ideas in depth, collecting data from Britannica's extensive collection of science articles, videos and annotated images which are embedded in the program. Students use this information to support or revise their beliefs. The process leads them to new and accurate understandings that will better equip them for senior high school and beyond.

Britannica has just introduced a new version of Pathways: Science with a number of enhancements, including separate views for teachers and students that allow teachers to track student progress and provide flexible implementation.

"Pathways: Science meets a vital need in today's classroom and it appears the teachers who used it with their students got it right away," said Michael Ross, general manager of Britannica Digital Learning and a senior vice president with Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. "We're very grateful for this recognition, which comes from the toughest judges of all."

Free trials for [Pathways: Science](#) are available to schools and consortiums. Interested educators can call (+61 2) 9915-8800 or bol@eb.com.au for more information.

About Britannica Digital Learning

Britannica Digital Learning (BDL) provides reliable, high-quality classroom products and solutions for educators. BDL experts produce curriculum-aligned resources for all ages from preschool to high school that make creative and purposeful use of technologies widely used in schools today—such as interactive whiteboards, tablets, smart phones and learner-response devices—making it easier for teachers to teach and for students to learn. Products include Britannica School, Pathways: Science, Image Quest and SmartMaths. BDL is a division of Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. and maintains offices in Chicago, Sydney, London, New Delhi, Paris, Seoul, Tel Aviv, and Tokyo.