Contents

- 3 Editorial
- 4 Inclusion: Oakwood High School creating a sense of belonging for everyone

This case study shares how a school in Rotherham adopted a whole-school approach to promoting inclusion

7 Practitioner case studies Andrew Chandler-Grevatt introduces a case study by Ravina Winch

Practical ideas

- 10 Microscale for inclusion Elsa Tilston describes how microscale can help reduce set-up time, reduce cognitive load and enhance observational skills
- 12 Reduced scale electrolysis in a Tic Tac box Maureen Wade describes how a sweet box is transformed into an upright reduced scale electrolysis kit
- 14 Using yeast as a cost-effective alternative to *B. subtilis* in post-16 biology courses
 Ion Hale describes how yeast can be used to deliver the microbiological technique.

Jon Hale describes how yeast can be used to deliver the microbiological technique of serial dilutions to calculate the density of viable cells in a suspension

Real-world science

- **16 Tracking monkey malaria across changing landscapes using drones Emilia Johnson, Tock Hing Chua** and **Kimberly Fornace** discuss the public health threat of monkey malaria and how remote sensing technology can create opportunities to engage with and learn from affected communities
- **18** Centrefold: Drone technology to track monkey malaria Emilia Johnson, Tock Hing Chua and Kimberly Fornace share images from their research into monkey malaria
- 21 Subject knowledge enhancement: Acids, pH and earthquakes the scales that are not linear Keith Ross explains logarithmic scales and why they are sometimes useful
- 24 Real-world science (hinterland): The evolution of caffeine Chris Graham shares a hinterland idea for teaching the biology topic of evolution
- 26 STEM careers: STEM and systems thinking for tackling the climate and nature crises Martha Neugarten shares her journey through education to her work at the Environment Agency
- 28 Post-16 focus: Science Beyond the Boundaries Michael Thistlethwaite shares his reflections from his experience with the Science Beyond the Boundaries research project
- 30 Education research: Telling a different story research into the use of science stories Richard Brock, Ben Rogers and Liam Cini O'Dwyer introduce their research into using science stories
- 32 Revision focus: A whole-school cognitive science approach Maria Bateson shares examples of using cognitive science approaches across all subject areas and how she is working to develop a whole-school culture of revision
- 34 Researcher interview: Questions for Judith Bennett Alastair Gittner, Chair of ASE's Research Group, in conversation with Professor Judith Bennett
- **36** Going deeper Our Editors share details of our first photographic competition on the theme of Light in the Natural World, and the contents for the June issue of SSR in Depth

SSR in Practice

June 2023, 104(388)

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Real-world science (p. 16)



pH scale - subject knowledge (p. 21)



STEM careers (p. 26)



Photo competition (p. 36)

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Contributing to SSR in Practice

If you have an idea for an article for SSR in Practice, please submit your proposal using the form

https://forms.gle/qpAj7TZ1XrLQxyrbA

Writing outlines are available to support the writing of case study, practical idea and hinterland articles.

See www.ase.org.uk/submission-guidelines

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Health & Safety

For all practical procedures described in SSR in Practice, we have attempted to ensure that:

- the requirements of UK health & safety law are observed:
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However, errors and omissions can be made, and employers may have adopted different standards. Therefore, before any practical activity, teachers and technicians should always check their employer's risk assessment. Any local rules issued by their employer must be obeyed, whatever is recommended in SSR in Practice. Unless the context dictates otherwise it is assumed that:

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- care is taken with normal laboratory operations such as heating substances or handling heavy objects;
- good laboratory practice is observed when chemicals or living organisms are handled;
- eye protection is worn whenever there is any recognised risk to the eves;
- fieldwork takes account of any guidelines issued by the employer;
- pupils are taught safe techniques for such activities as heating or smelling chemicals, and for handling microorganisms.

For further guidance, please see page 3 of SSR in Depth.

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Cover photo by Ed Walsh

Editorial

Fiona Williams, SSR content editor

Welcome to the June issue of *SSR* and hello from me, the new content editor for *SSR*, working alongside the commissioning editor, Helen Harden. I gained my doctorate from Leeds University and spent a few years as a postdoctoral researcher and then as a teaching fellow. I then moved into secondary teaching as a class teacher, later becoming Head of Chemistry. For family reasons, I left the classroom and now work part-time in initial teacher education.

I am excited to be the content editor for *SSR* and look forward and to guiding authors through the peer review, editing and proof stages of getting their articles published in *SSR in Depth* or *SSR in Practice*. Thank you to all who have submitted articles and have been patient with me while I become familiar with the various processes and people involved with the journal.

Science education covers a broad range of topics across the different disciplines, which means that there should be something relevant to everyone in *SSR*.

Environmental chemistry and green technologies are areas of growth in both society and schools. In *SSR in Depth*, Averil Macdonald discusses the importance of hydrogen as a clean energy source and how it can be used in a safe, practical and affordable manner, while Pramila Tanwar provides a study into the awareness by Delhi pupils of their own carbon footprint. On a similar theme in *SSR in Practice*, Ravina Winch shares a case study on her use of an eco-STEM club as a vehicle for an embodied cognition approach to environmental education and Martha Neugarten describes her work with the Environment Agency and her journey to this.

Science stories or hinterland (real-world science) are often used as a hook to entice the learner or to enrich teaching. Within *SSR in Practice*, Richard Brock *et al.* introduce a research project into the potential benefits or harms of using science stories in teaching. Any year 12 or 13 pupil in England can take part in the project. The data obtained will help the team to offer guidance to teachers on using stories in teaching. Using caffeine



as an example, Chris Graham shares a hinterland idea for teaching evolution, and the links that can be made with other biology subject areas when doing so.

In the area of practical work, borne out of the frustration of trying to source affordable live bacteria cultures, Jon Hale shares a simple and cost-effective alternative method for a commonly required microbiology practical. There are two articles on microscale or reduced scale electrolysis: Maureen Wade offers a simple set-up for electrolysis using a Tic Tac box and Elsa Tilston approaches the topic from an inclusion perspective. On the theme of inclusion, we learn about the Inclusion in Schools programme through a case study from a school in Rotherham. Keith Ross explores some scales that use logarithms, and looks at how we help our pupils to understand the pH scale.

In SSR in Depth, Anna Koumara and Panagiotis Koumaras explore Newton's work on hydrostatics and suggest ideas for teaching hydrostatic pressure as guided by Newton's work. Models are, undoubtedly, an important tool in the teaching and learning of concepts in science. However, these models can sometimes be hard for pupils to interpret and can lead to alternative understanding of a concept. Daniel Tan *et al.* discuss some barriers to learning that can be faced by pupils learning about the particulate nature of matter.

This is your journal. As such, we want to read about, and share in, your knowledge and practice. If you have never written for *SSR* before and are unsure whether your article idea is suitable then please get in touch with Helen at helenhardenase@gmail.com

Fiona Williams

Photography competition

We are excited to announce our first photography competition on the theme 'Light in the Natural World' (*SSR in Practice*, page 36). The closing date is early September so please take some pictures over the summer holiday and join in. We are looking forward to seeing the pictures and encourage everyone to participate.

For further articles you can access SSR in Depth online at www.ase.org.uk/SSR-in-depth/ issue-388



All the weblinks mentioned in articles in this issue are listed in one convenient document available at www.ase.org.uk/ssr-resources

