

<b>Argotti Students Competition</b>
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All school students visiting Argotti Botanic Gardens & Resource Centre will be eligible to participate in a competition according to their age group by submitting their projects which will be exhibited at the Argotti Botanic Gardens & Resource Centre. All entries should be submitted by post or by email directly to Argotti or to the student's respective school, clearly indicating name and surname, the respective class and school by noon of Wednesday 6th of May 2026.

**Category I – Years 1-3**

**Draw** a colourful poster (A4 or A3 size) using any medium you like, whether pencil, pens, paint or otherwise, on the following theme:

*The hairy leaf / Il-werqa sufija*

**Category II – Years 4-6**

**Write** an 80-150 word writing task in English or Maltese:

*A day in the life of a Cactus / Ġurnata fil-ħajja ta' Kaktus*

**Category III – Years 7-8**

Sow some seeds, record their growth and do a report as follows:

On an A4 sheet you should present a **photo** of the seeds sown. Write the scientific name and the common names of the plant in English and Maltese if available. Record the date when you sow and the date when the seeds start to germinate. Take a photo when the seeds germinated and 1 week, 2 weeks, 3 weeks, and 4 weeks after germination. Write a **short description** (not more than 100 words) of any observation you made throughout these 4 weeks.

## Category IV – Years 9-11

You have been selected to develop a garden in a public town square.

- **Size of area:** 5 x 5 metres.
- **Surroundings:** enclosed by buildings, with no valleys nearby.
- **Water source:** a cistern close by, available for garden irrigation.
- **Existing feature:** An olive tree in one corner, providing partial shade.

Your task is to create a garden design that includes **5 different species of shrubs**.

You are to present a **report** with the following sections:

1. **Preparation** – Outline the key steps and considerations before planting (eg. watering)
2. **Plant selection** – Present your choice of 5 shrub species and explain why you selected them.
3. **Map** – Provide a simple plan (can be hand-drawn 2-D map) showing where each shrub will be planted in relation to the olive tree and other features.
4. **Vision** – Explain the overall idea you want your garden to express.

Feel free to discuss with your teachers for guidance. The report should be between **2-3 pages**. You may work individually or in pairs.

## Prizes

Prizes will be awarded in each category depending on the number of participants. The school with the greatest number of entries in each category will also be awarded for the effort with 2 indigenous trees and 3 indigenous plants to be used within the school premises. The prizes will be awarded by end of May.

**Deadline:** Noon of **Wednesday 6th May 2025**