

# My Place Photography Competition

## 2026 Theme: Our Environment

### Use this handy guide to understand the 2026 theme!

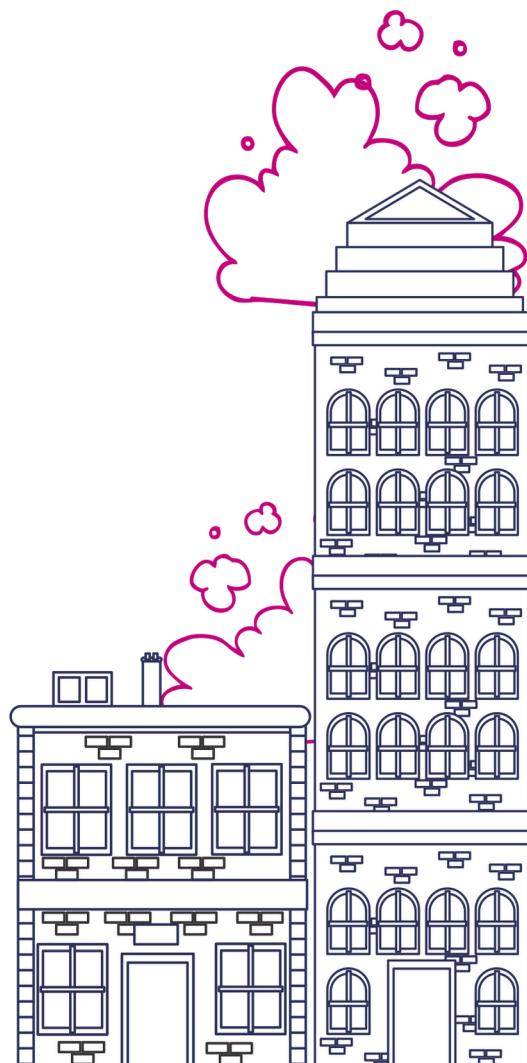
We have created this guide to give more information about this year's theme and to offer some inspiration on what you could photograph as your entry for the competition.

### What do we mean by environment?

The environment is everything around us, from the trees, to the buildings, to the sky above.

Depending on where you live in Scotland, your local environment might be very natural with trees and mountains, or it might be very built up with tall buildings and roads, or it might be a mix of both!

The theme of 'Our Environment' recognises how humans interact with the places and spaces around them and how this impacts our shared environment.



# Our Environment I-SPY

*I spy with my little eye... the features of our environment!*

Take a walk around your local area thinking about the different features of your environment and how they are affected by various factors.

## Types of Environments



### Built Environments

Places made by humans - buildings, roads, bridges.



### Managed Environments

Places with both natural and man-made features like parks and farms.



### Natural Environments

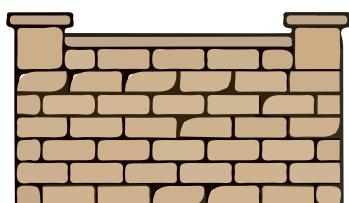
Mountains, hills, rivers, beaches, forests - places that occur naturally and without human intervention.

# Our Environment



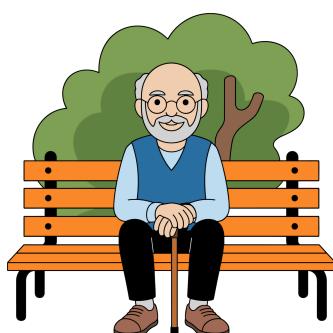
## What's the weather like?

Look for puddles or dry patches of grass. Are there shelters to protect from the rain or sun? How does weather affect the environment?



## What are things made of?

Why are certain building materials picked for those buildings? Are the buildings old or new? How do they fit into the natural environment?



## Is it accessible?

Are there signs, streetlights, and places to sit? Can you cycle or push a pram? How is the environment made welcoming to all?



## Is it looked after?

Are there different bins for recycling or is there rubbish on the ground? How does this affect the environment?

# Backpack Essentials

- A camera, smartphone, or tablet
- Our 'taking great photographs' guide
- I-SPY activity sheet
- A map of your local area
- An umbrella or raincoat!