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Module Presentation: Volunteer engagement, management and care

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Background

GALAXY ZOO.org

Hi Alice | Home | The Science | How to Take Part | Galaxy Analysis | Forum | Press | Blog | FAQ | Links | Contact Us | Logout

- Galaxy Tutorial
- Galaxy Analysis
- Galaxy Zoo - Thank You
- Show My Galaxies

Galaxy Ref:
58773806727543264

Choose the Galaxy Profile by clicking the buttons below

CLOCK ANTISPIRAL GALAXY EDGE ON / FACE ON

ELLIPTICAL GALAXY

STAR OR PLANET HERGERS

Show Grid Overlay on the next Image

Welcome to Galaxy Zoo's view of the Universe. If you're here you should already have seen the Tutorial, but feel free to go and remind yourself. There's no need to agonise for too long over any one image, just make your best guess in each case.

GALAXY ZOO FORUM

Hello Alice
Show recent posts since last visit
Show new replies to your posts
There are 5 unread awaiting approval.
January 04, 2018, 05:39:17 pm

This forum has been archived and no new public posts are possible. You can still search its content, and all are welcome to join the continuing discussions at Galaxy Zoo 10K.

Welcome to Galaxy Zoo

Forum Help and Guidelines
Tutorials, advice, useful links, and a few rules. Please read started threads before posting.
183 Posts
118 Topics
Last post by [Homer](#) on July 06, 2014, 10:36:56 pm

Astronomy at Galaxy Zoo
Zooite help on galaxies and astronomy here.
57 Posts
9 Topics
Last post by [John](#) on ~~2014-05-25 09:37:11 am~~ on May 25, 2012, 09:37:11 am

The objects

Object of the Day
The Galaxy Zoo team nominate their Object of the Day. Please do not post your own objects in threads here - use the boards below.
1852 Posts
144 Topics
Last post by [coloban](#) on July 06, 2014, 09:29:09 pm

Stunning objects
Post the most beautiful objects here. Remember to give the reference number.
18338 Posts
1994 Topics
Last post by [alucash](#) on July 09, 2014, 09:11:31 pm

Weird and wonderful
Post curiosities here. Please remember to include the reference number.
139170 Posts
7956 Topics
Last post by [paufingers](#) on ~~2014-07-05 09:46:50 pm~~ on July 05, 2014, 09:46:50 pm

The site and the science

Latest News from Galaxy Zoo
We will use this board to occasionally publish some noteworthy News items or Press Events relating to Galaxy Zoo. These will also feature on the main web site.
11251 Posts
147 Topics
Last post by [Homer](#) on July 06, 2014, 08:51:39 pm

The Galaxy Zoo Library
The place where we keep a record of all the publications coming out of Galaxy Zoo
704 Posts
59 Topics
Last post by [Homer](#) on ~~2014-07-06 12:46:12 pm~~ on July 06, 2014, 12:46:12 pm

My first citizen science project: Galaxy Zoo

Large discussion forum: a citizen science community



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Citizen scientists as a community

A screenshot of a forum post on the eu-citizen.science website. The post is titled "WOW WHAT'S THAT? LOOK HERE FIRST!" and is by user "jules". It contains a grid of 12 astronomical images with labels and IDs. The labels include "PLANETARY NEBULA", "EMISSION AND REFLECTION NEBULAE", and "STARS". The images show various celestial objects like nebulae and stars in different colors (green, blue, red, white).

Author Topic: WOW WHAT'S THAT? LOOK HERE FIRST! (Read 10552 times)

jules
Hero Member
November 15, 2009, 09:46:41 pm

WOW WHAT'S THAT? LOOK HERE FIRST!
Thought it might be useful for all you enthusiastic newbies to have a list of non-galaxy objects that you might come across on the top right of the home page.
It's understandable wanting to share an amazing find - and it's nice for us "oldies" to be reminded of them - so if you post the picture and share the moment!
Here are some of the "what the heck..." objects in the Galaxy Zoo SDSS sample. More may be added at a later date.

PLANETARY NEBULA

PN G164.8-31.1 587738967237813416	PN G047.0+42.4 588018091083890728	PN G093.3-02.4 738883003899249350
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EMISSION AND REFLECTION NEBULAE

NGC 2264 The Cone Nebula and the Christmas Tree 587725773994228704	NGC 2359 Thor's Helmet 587750957537034412
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STARS

NGC 2261 Hubble's Variable Nebula 7588848721862398626	NGC 2245 Supernova Remnant 758884908693127218	GK Persei Firework Nebula Supernova Remnant 758882024101118054
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- Answer each other's questions
- Write blogs, tutorials, news
- Use "microexpertise" (practical astronomy, chemistry, databases)
- Think up own questions
- Create collections
- Do the unexpected!

For all this, they need access to data and a place to talk.



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Relationship to practitioners

“Many volunteers **appreciated every opportunity they were given to meet with scientists** and were willing to give up time and resources (e.g., pay for travel) to accomplish that.

However, **not many senior scientists were interested in engaging with volunteers”**

- Rotman, D., et al. (2014).

Motivations Affecting Initial and Long-Term Participation in Citizen Science Projects in Three Countries.
In iConference 2014 Proceedings (p. 110–124).

Many studies are done on motivations and recruitment

We seem to ask less *what citizen scientists need*

We do not spend much time with citizen scientists

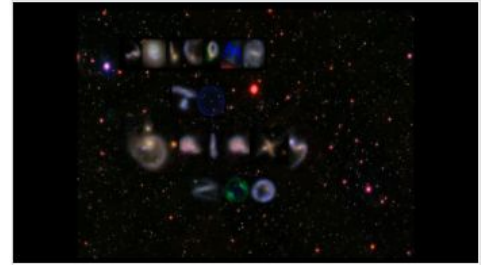


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Course sections

1. **Why do people do citizen science?**
2. **Engagement & Communication**
3. **Community Building**
4. **The potential of the citizen scientist**

Plus, of course: Welcome & Introduction, Final Quiz, Sources & Acknowledgements, Further Reading



Volunteer engagement, management and care

This is a free course of approximately 1 hour 45 minutes. It is aimed at anyone who will spend time interacting with citizen scientists - for example, recruiting people to participate in your project, blogging, or acting as a group leader or discussion forum moderator. You will need to have an overview of citizen science, but no in-depth knowledge is required.



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Course highlights

1. The “why” - with the personal aspect

Motivation	Description (used in survey instrument)
Contribute	I am excited to contribute to original scientific research.
Learning	I find the site and forums helpful in learning about astronomy.
Discovery	I can look at galaxies that few people have seen before.
Community	I can meet other people with similar interests.
Teaching	I find Galaxy Zoo to be a useful resource for teaching other people.
Beauty	I enjoy looking at the beautiful galaxy images.
Fun	I had a lot of fun categorizing the galaxies.
Vastness	I am amazed by the vast scale of the universe.
Helping	I am happy to help.
Zoo	I am interested in the Galaxy Zoo project.
Astronomy	I am interested in astronomy.
Science	I am interested in science.

Raddick, M.J., Bracey, G., Gay, P.L., Lintott, C.J., Murray, P., Schawinski, K., Szalay, A.S. and Vandenberg, J., 2009. Galaxy zoo: Exploring the motivations of citizen science volunteers. *arXiv preprint arXiv:0909.2925*



Leonora Erica Mimms explains why she takes part in “Stall Catchers”, a project researching Alzheimer’s Disease



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Course highlights

2. Communications

- **Reaching out - who, where, how**
- **How to sound interesting**
- **Communications methods**

Communication with established volunteers (5 minutes)



When your project is up and running, communication and feedback remain essential. Here are some of the ways to do it.

> **What do they want to know now?**

> **What method should I use for communication?**

> **Feedback**

> **Remember, your communication is valuable**



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Course highlights

3. Community Building

What will you build into your discussion forum? (Optional - 5 minutes)

If you build a discussion forum, what should you put in it? Here is a selection of ideas - not all will necessarily be suitable for your project; you will have to choose.

If you are not planning to build a discussion forum, you can skip this section and read the 3-minute "[Discussion Forums: Short Summary](#)" instead.

- > **Welcome/Help/Rules**
- > **News and Announcements**
- > **A place to post about data or findings**
- > **Questions about the project or the relevant science**
- > **Technical Support**
- > **Asking about your volunteers - their feedback, comments and suggestions**
- > **Unrelated chat**
- > **A secret moderators' area**
- > **What else?**

- **Face-to-face versus online**
- **Discussion tools**
- **Assess your project: is a discussion forum appropriate?**
- **Community standards/when to ban ;-)**




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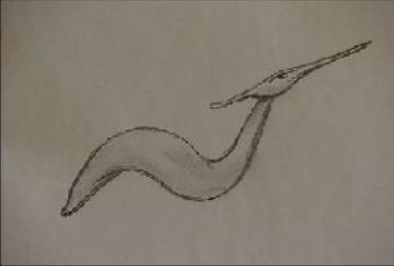

Course highlights

4. The potential of the citizen scientist

AlexandredOr Some of you seem to like this modest production...
Hero Member
So I open this topic for this cosmic fantasy.
I hope you will enjoy 😊
588017702943916043



Posts: 25423



- **Life impacts: writing for others, studies (and failure), fame, interests**
- **Dealing with uncomfortable situations**
- **Volunteer creativity**



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Thank you

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What do citizen scientists need from us?

- to gain more from their experience of participation
- to do their best possible work