Scientists Everywhere: Citizen Science & Academic Libraries

Eileen G. Harrington Health & Life Sciences Librarian The Universities at Shady Grove

What kind of frog/toad is this?

Green frog (Rana clamitans)

• American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*)

Western toad (Anaxyrus boreas)







- ALA Editions, 2014
- Previous position at California Academy of Sciences

Why Citizen Science?



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File :Crab_Cangrexo_66eue.jpg



Harrington, 2001



http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/image/1302/m51dust_hubble_960.jpg

Why Citizen Science?



https://flic.kr/p/em1wwy



https://flic.kr/p/cnVydW



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Myoglobin.png

Challenges of Citizen Science: Data Quality?

- Simple protocols
- Training
- Incorporate quality control
- Law of Large Numbers
- Peer reviewed publications



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Collecting_mussel_data_%285514834 987%29.jpg



Other Challenges







https://flic.kr/p/bHb1y8



https://flic.kr/p/8pMJAF

Creating Your Own

 Citizen Science Toolkit--Cornell Lab of Ornithology

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/citscitoolkit/toolkit

 CitSci.org—Natural Resources Ecology Lab at Colorado State University

http://www.citsci.org/

• Citizen Science Association http://citizenscienceassociation.org/



Tapping Into Already Existing Projects

Citizen Science Central

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/citscitoolkit/projects

SciStarter
 <u>http://scistarter.com/</u>

Citizen Science Alliance (Zooniverse)
 <u>http://www.citizensciencealliance.org/</u>



EyeWire

- Online game to help map connectome
- Human retinal neurons
- 160,000 participants, 145 countries
- Sebastian Seung's Computational Neuroscience Lab at Princeton

http://blog.eyewire.org/about



"EyeWirers complete J Cell 2" by AmyLeeRobinson https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:EyeWirers_complete_J_Cell _2.jpg#/media/File:EyeWirers_complete_J_Cell_2.jpg



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/17/ArtificialFiction Brain.png

Project BudBurst

- Monitoring shifting phenophase of plants
- One time or full season observations
- Data available on website
- Over 15,000
 observations in all 50
 states
- National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) & Chicago Botanic Garden

http://budburst.org/



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Dogwood_from_below_2.jpg



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Northern_Swamp_Dogwood_ berries.jpg

Avenues for Collaboration

- Data management services
- Visualization labs/GIS labs & Services
- Equipment Loans
- Scholarly communications & open access



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Binoculars#/media/File:Fernglas%28alt%29.JPG



http://frogwatch.fieldscope.org/v3/maps



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:DARPA_Big_Data.jpg

Avenues for Collaboration

- Outreach & education
- Makerspaces
- Exhibit Spaces
- Classrooms/Meeting rooms



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Donnonkln_Fab_lab_en_Ber meo.jpg



Harrington, 2015



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Joan_Brossa_Vel%C3%B2drom_ Cam%C3%AD_obrint_interrogaci%C3%B3.JPG

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