Citizen Science with Zooniverse

The Zooniverse (www.zooniverse.org) is the home of popular citizen science projects. There are projects here covering from astronomy to climate science. There are also many lesson plans already created for using Zooniverse projects in the classroom.

Today, we’ll explore GalaxyZoo and PlanetHunters.

**GalaxyZoo**
GalaxyZoo is probably the most famous – it shows images of different galaxies, and asks you to classify what type of galaxy it is (e.g. spiral, elliptical).

**PlanetHunters**
PlanetHunters shows data from the Kepler space mission, and is designed for you to try and identify when planets transit in front of their star, causing a dip in brightness.

**Let’s begin!**
The first step is to go to www.zooniverse.org and register to create a username. Once you have created a username, login and start classifying galaxies and finding exoplanets! You’ll get a tutorial on how to do it when you first begin.

**Zooniverse in the classroom**
There are many lessons already planned for use with GalaxyZoo and other Zooniverse projects. You can explore what is available at zooteach.org