

Earth Zone Report – June 2012

This report has been compiled by the I'm a Scientist team as a zone summary, containing moderator observations and our web statistics, to provide some meaningful information on your zone.

The Earth Zone was one of the busiest zones with almost 200 queued questions even before the event began! The questions kept on coming in throughout the two weeks and spanned a wide variety of topics. The students were very interested in the scientists own research as well as general scientific, philosophical, ethical and personal questions.

This zone generated around 500 approved questions as well as 12 live chats and numerous comments. In the live chats, the scientists had their work cut out as most were very busy and they were tested to the max with some difficult questions that even the scientists could not answer. The scientists in this zone were all brilliant at interacting with the students and I got the impression that the students really did enjoy the live chats and that they were encouraged by the answers they were getting. A great zone!



Zone page	Pageviews
Total Zone	34,122
Zone homepage	3,535
ASK page	2,498
CHAT page	2,651
VOTE page	1,372
List of questions	1,005
James Pope	1,755
James Verdon	1,614
Nuala Carson	1,435
Gemma Purser	1,032
Davie Galloway	944

Number of views of zone pages on the I'm a Scientist site

	Zone	Zones average	Whole event
Number of registered students	371	237	1,895
% of active students (used ASK, CHAT, VOTE or commented)	91%	90%	-
Number of questions asked	1103	759	6,073
Number of questions approved	478	341	2,731
Number of answers given	1067	770	6,162
Number of comments	145	127	1,014
Number of votes	288	228	1,827
Number of live chats	12	9	75
Number of lines of live chat	5346	3,593	28,746
Number of schools	8	6	44

Key figures from I'm a Scientist June 2012 for the zone, the average of all 8 zones, and the whole event

Pageviews of the zone during the 4 weeks surrounding the event.



Popular topics

The students were very interested in all of the scientists work, particularly Davie and James Verdon's work on volcanos and earthquakes. They also asked a lot of questions about Nuala's work on the Arctic and Antarctic, Gemma's work on carbon capture and James Pope's climate model work. Other questions included drugs in sport, the theory of evolution, Higgs Boson, dreams, animal and human behaviour, mind control, robots, the big bang theory, abortion, the energy debate, the possibility of a parallel universe, the existence of aliens and cloning!

Some of the most viewed questions in the zone. Some questions were tweeted which may have increased the number of pageviews.

Question	Pageviews
Does cheese actually give you nightmares???	149
Why is the salt and ice challenge so painful?xx	78
Why do you find earthquakes so interesting?	72
do dogs see in Black and white?	67
Life. Inevitable, or just a fluke?	64
What else do you do in the day?	61
How close are we to having nuclear fusion on earth?	60
could the moon or sun or any other planets fall to earth?	54

Scientist winner: Nuala Carson

Nuala plans to spend her money on:

"[subsidising] schools to come and visit the national oceanography centre in Liverpool. It's an absolutely amazing institution where kids can learn all about the ocean! Telling you about something is OK, but actually showing you it, and allowing you to have a go yourself is the best way to teach you about the ocean, why its important, and how we measure changes in it."



"I am part of the National Oceanography Center in Liverpool and it has two sites. Across the two sites there is a massive amount of cool technology that could be used to teach you all about sea level rise (would you like to know what parts of the country are going to be under water in 100 years?) to ocean pollution. There is a fantastic team of scientists working on a range of problems in oceanography and we would love to talk to you about it!"

Student winner: boxofstrawbs – for very good questions and live chat contributions.

