

## Silver Zone, June 2013



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

The Silver Zone was busy to begin with but tailed off towards the end of the event. The second week was a lot quieter, however live chats still generated questions in Ask.

### Number of page views in the 3 weeks surrounding the event

Zone page	Page views
Total zone	15,110
ASK page	1,145
CHAT page	1,242
VOTE page	1,119
Sarah-Jane Walsh	1,023
Ravi Kopparapu	621
Kinda Al-Hourani	464
Jane Paget	483
Andrew Manches	648

### Key figures from I'm a Scientist June 2013 for the zone, the average of all 18 zones, and the whole event

	Zone	Zones average	Whole event
Registered students	314	372	6,697
% of active students (used ASK, CHAT, VOTE or commented)	81%	83%	-
Questions asked	817	963	17,337
Questions approved	239	309	5,558
Answers given	314	533	9,597
Comments	34	73	1,306
Votes	233	276	4,962
Live chats	14	13	240
Lines of live chat	2,807	4,735	85,225
Schools	7	8	138

## Popular topics

The main theme in the live chats was marine wildlife, relating to Sarah-Jane's research, with questions including everything from singing whales to growing coral:

**acidandbudgies:** Can you grow coral above water

**sarahjanewalsh:** you can grow corals in tanks but they need to be in water to live

**bubble5:** Is it true that whales sing? If so how do they sound?

**sarahjanewalsh:** you know in nemo when dory does a whale impression, thats how they sound!

In the questions, topics were a lot broader, as can be seen from the sample questions below.

### Sample questions

[Why do biscuits go soft and cakes go dry and is there anything in the middle?](#)

[How hard is it to identify coral reefs in water?](#)

[What's your favourite shark?](#)

[Why is the moon sometimes visible in the day?](#)

[What's the benefit in using toothpaste when brushing your teeth?](#)

[Is it possible to re-create a human being once they are dead with a sample of their DNA?](#)

[What is the fastest computer?](#)

[Are children's brains the same as adults?](#)

[What type of plants might you be wanting to find on a planet and if a specific type then on what planet?](#)



nutrients which they get from feeding on plankton, which the algae also needs, so its symbiotic, they both need each other. There are several other organisms that have formed these relationships, giant clams for example have the same algae as well as some jellyfish.

### **Scientist winner: Sarah-Jane Walsh**

Sarah-Jane's plans for the prize money: *"To buy some high tech underwater camera equipment and build a new website focused on education and outreach."* [Read Sarah-Jane's thank you message here.](#)



### **Student winner: soggyshpeepy**

For asking lots of good questions and demonstrating great scientific thinking, **soggyshpeepy** will receive a £20 WH Smith voucher and a certificate.

### **Feedback**

We're still collecting feedback from teachers, students and scientists but here are a few of the comments made during the event...

*"That is amaze balls I did not know that"* – storm002, student

*"My mind has been bombarded with questions I have never even thought of and have made my brain work harder than it has in a while. It's so refreshing to get such a fresh view from science and I'm glad to have given you guys just a small insight in to my world and the world of science."* – Sarah-Jane Walsh, scientist

*"We have learned so much thank you <3"* – mazzasayshowjumper, student

*"Some really insightful questions about our work... A lot of these students are smarter than I was at their age!"* – scientist

*"Thank you all you scientists you have inspired me a lot!"* – spoderman1, student