



June 2014

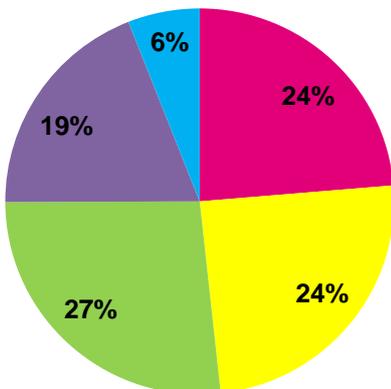
The 400+ students registered in the Vision Zone were really active, contributing to a lively zone, particularly in the 16 live chat sessions. The Vision Zone winner, Andrew, stands out as really engaging with the students, contributing nearly half of all the live chat activity from the scientists. There was a huge focus on the zone's vision theme, as show in the Wordle below.

Schools' data at a glance

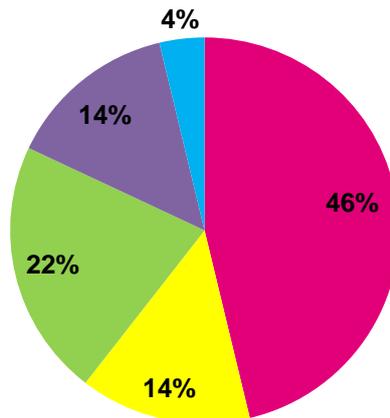


Scientists' activity

Answers



Lines of live chat



Scientist profile	Page views	Position
Andrew French	812	Winner
Emma Reid	842	2nd
Nancy Carlisle	819	3rd
Michael Kelly	665	4th
Elaine Gardener	522	5th

Key figures from I'm a Scientist June 2014 for the zone, and the average of all 17 zones

Number of page views during the event
(plus 2 previous weeks)

VISION ZONE	PAGE VIEWS	ZONES AVERAGE
Total zone	18,523	16,052
ASK page	1,322	1,091
CHAT page	2,629	1,699
VOTE page	1,551	968

	VISION ZONE	ZONES AVERAGE
Registered students	407	282
% of active students (used ASK, CHAT, VOTE or commented)	83%	80%
Questions asked	482	488
Questions approved	263	217
Answers given	435	429
Comments	51	54
Votes	316	219
Lines of live chat	5,370	4,020
Live chats	16	12
Schools	7	6

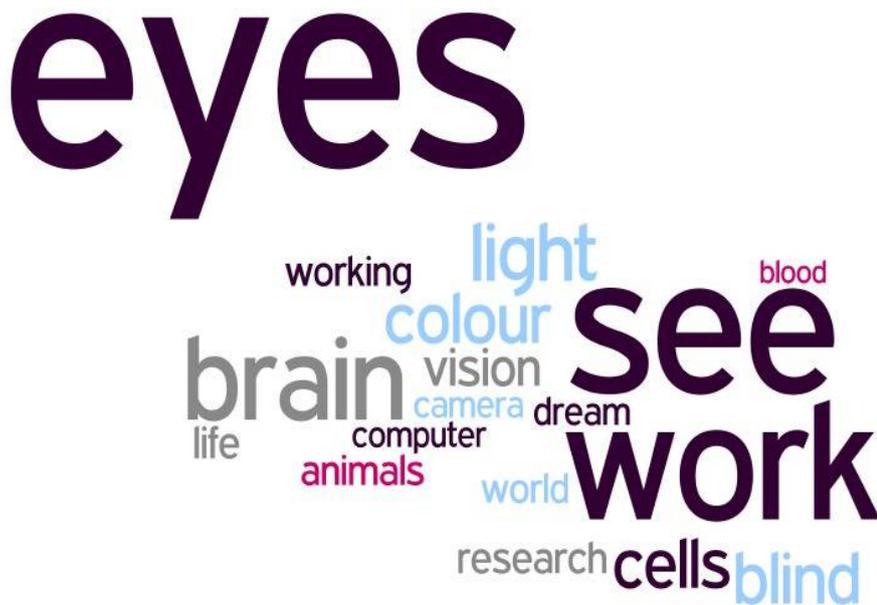
Popular topics

Popular topics in both the CHAT and ASK sections were facts and ideas about our eyes: how do we adapt to light or darkness, what causes blindness or colour blindness, and why dogs see in black and white.

Students picked up on the different scientists' research topics. They were really interested in Nancy's work on visual memory and attention measurement. They also asked lots of questions about Andrew's research on image analysis and about Emma's career choices, as she was a beautician before becoming a professional scientist.



Keywords from live chats in the zone (the size of the word represents its popularity)



Ask ?

Keywords of questions asked in the zone (the zone theme is not used as a keyword)

Keyword	Number of times	Keyword	Number of times
work	39	stem-cell	9
eye	34	future	9
preference	23	dark	8
reason	19	brain	8
career	16	science-fiction	8
sight	15	experiment	8
colour	10	cure	8
dream	10	health	7
blind	10	blood-vessel	6
computer	9	stem-cell	9

Sample questions

"Why does it take our eyes longer to adjust to the the dark (like when we turn the lights out at night) than it does to light (like opening our eyes in the morning and how do our eyes do this?"

"in future will people be able to capture memories like a camera? like taking pictures of things with their eyes? "

"if you read in the dark does it damage your eyes? and if so why?"

"why do we se in colour and dogs see in black and white ??????????????????"

"will there ever be a cure for blind people"

"Like you are right handed or left handed are you right eyed or left eyed"

Examples of good engagement

All of the scientists had an enthusiastic and engaging tone, and Andrew and Nancy were particularly notable. Even when the students asked questions unrelated to the scientists' areas of interest, they were eager to answer as fully as possible and even take advantage of the opportunity to debunk certain myths. For instance:

"do micro-waves damage your brain? for example if you sleep next to your phone whilst it charges" – daniholamiamigos, student

"cell phones don't use microwaves, they use a different frequency band. I looked at the research on this a few years back, and there was no evidence that the typical amount of cell phone use creates brain cancer." – Nancy Carlisle, scientist

Michael was also really good at managing a question by a student asking about a personal health-related issue:

["What causes a squint?"](#) – liarockey, student

Scientist winner: Andrew French

Andrew's plans for the prize money: *"I've always liked the idea of building a demo image analysis setup using Lego as a way of communicating what I do, so maybe that."* [Read Andrew's thank you message here.](#)



Student winner: phoebetomaz

For great engagement during the event **phoebetomaz** 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...

"thank you My class have had a brilliant time"
– teacher

"That is so good to find out because I always used ask myself why...now I know" – student

"Thanks everybody for asking such great questions. It was lots of fun to see what you are thinking about!!!" – Nancy Carlisle, scientist

"Go forth, young scientists, and enjoy figuring out all the things we still don't understand!" – Andrew French, scientist