

THE SCIENCE TEACHER

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COVER

The golden age of citizen science has begun in the past decade. The Explosion of the internet has given all citizen access to scientific data sets and the ability to participate in genuine scientific research. Volunteers from around the world now contribute valuable data, aid in the analysis of these data, and work with scientists to design new projects and develop important research questions. Citizen scientists monitor backyard birds, track climate change, analyze signals from space, survey invasive species, and even research what makes babies laugh. This issue surveys a range of citizen science projects that may inspire you to involve your own students in this meaningful form of research.

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