



Libraries as Community Hubs for Citizen Science

Planning for 2023 Citizen Science
Month in April!

What is citizen science?

A global movement that enables people from all walks of life to **collaborate** with scientists by participating in **real scientific research**.

It's how people can make an impact on issues they care about!

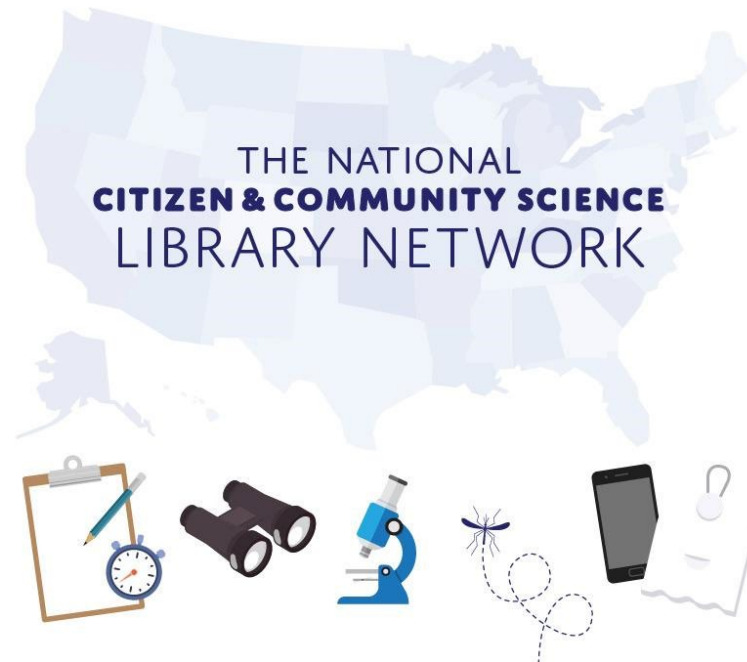
scistarter.org/citizen-science

The National Citizen and Community Science Library Network



A growing network of libraries and other community-based organizations dedicated to engaging their communities in citizen science managed by Arizona State University, SciStarter and the National Girls Collaborative Project.

Sign-up at scistarter.org/library-network



Celebrating Citizen Science Month!

Citizen Science Month is a month long **celebration of citizen and community science in April** featuring thousands of events hosted by librarians and community organizers like you!

citizensciencemonth.org

Planning for Citizen Science Month



**Introduce
Citizen
Science**

**Choose
Projects**

**Plan
Events**

**Add
Events**

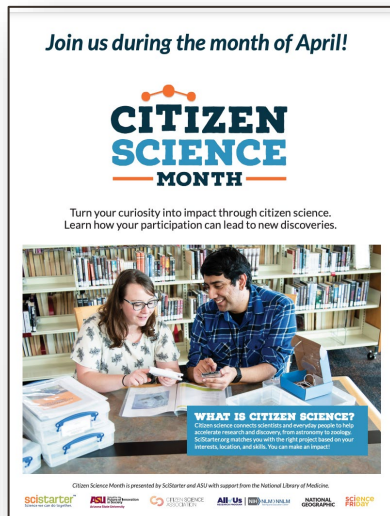
**Promote
Events**



Introduce Citizen Science

Downloadable materials make it easy.

Rack Cards



Posters



Tell us!

What citizen science projects have you participated in?

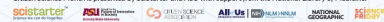
What types of issues do you want to help solve?

CROWDSOURCED SCIENCE
COMPUTER SCIENCE
SOCIAL SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING
NATURE
VOLUNTEER MONITORING
ENVIRONMENT
ASTRONOMY
GENETICS
PSYCHOLOGY
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
ECOLOGY
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
COMMUNITY SCIENCE
STATISTICS
MEDICINE

WHAT IS CITIZEN SCIENCE?
Citizen science is a collaboration between scientists and everyday people that helps accelerate research and discovery. From astronomy to zoology, SciStarter.org can match you to the right project based on your interests, location, and favorite activities. You can make an impact!



Citizen Science Month is presented by SciStarter and ASU with support from the National Library of Medicine.



Fliers & Bookmarks

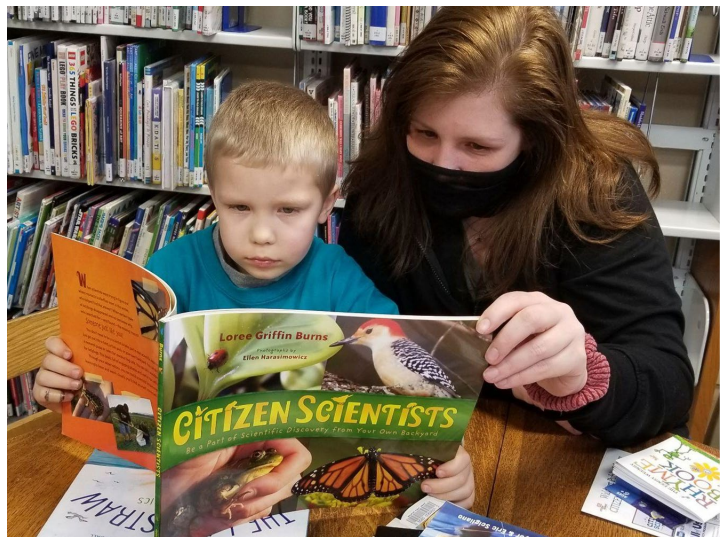
citizensciencemonth.org/resources



Citizen Science Display: Waldport Public Library



Citizen Science Storytimes and Book Clubs!



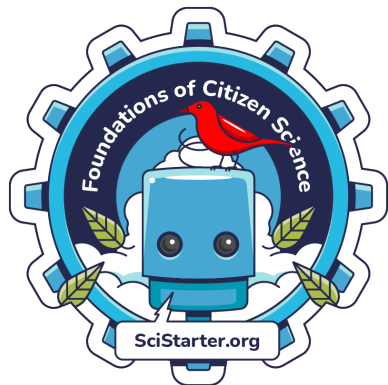
**Waldport Public
Library**



YouTube - PBS Books: Field Guide to Citizen Science



Or Simply Introduce Citizen Science to Library Users!



SciStarter.org/training

Online, interactive module
created by instructional designers
at Arizona State University.



SciStarter.org/library-training

Part 2 for library facilitators



Slides and speaker's notes to
facilitate an introduction to citizen
science event. Cobrand or adapt to
fit your needs.

Choose Citizen Science Projects

Ask your community what topics interest them!

scistarter.org/project-finder

- Host a listening session.
- Use the project finder.
- Send out a survey.
- Connect with local civic leaders, scientists and citizen scientists.
- Check out [Scistarter.org/people-finder](https://scistarter.org/people-finder) to make connections in your area.



Project Finder

plants, animals, weather, etc

Enter a location

Projects to do while... ▾

Select a topic ▾

only projects that... ▾

Age group(s) ▾

Relevant Sustainable Development Goal ▾

clear form find projects

Community-Based Science Survey for the Public

[Your library name] is interested in bringing citizen science opportunities to this community. Citizen science is a global movement that provides opportunities for people to collaborate with scientists to collect and analyze data on important science topics. We want to hear about what topics are most important to you! Please complete this brief survey:

What topics are interesting to you? (Pick your top 3.)

- 1) Air Quality
- 2) Astronomy, Night Sky, Light Pollution
- 3) Birds, Insects, Bees, Butterflies
- 4) Medical Research
- 5) Plants, Gardening
- 6) Other: _____

What types of projects would be of interest to you?

- 1) Indoor activities like computer-based projects
- 2) Outdoor activities observing the sky, plants, and animals

Do you have access to the internet at home?

- Yes
- No

Do you have access to apps on a smartphone or tablet?

- Yes
- No

Would you feel confident downloading an app onto your device and uploading pictures?

- Yes
- No

What sort of in-person activities would you attend if the COVID situation allows? (Pick your top 3.)

- 1) Lectures with local experts
- 2) Hands-on activities and demonstrations with group leader
- 3) Nature walk in the community led by local expert
- 4) Group bike ride with local expert to tour areas of scientific interest
- 5) Help Sessions to learn how to use Community-Based Science websites and apps like Scistarter.org or iNaturalist

Which library branch do you visit most often?

Comments or Suggestions: (Space for free writing.)

Choose accessible and engaging projects.



Outdoor	Indoor
<u>NASA GLOBE Observer</u> - Help forecast the risk of mosquito-borne illness and “ground truth” satellite data; app also hosts GLOBE Trees, Clouds, and Land Cover.	<u>Stall Catchers</u> - Speed up Alzheimer’s research by reporting clogged blood vessels in movies of mouse brains in an online game.
<u>Great Sunflower Project</u> - Observe any outdoor plant and count pollinators; Pollinators; Printable data forms available.	<u>Project Sidewalk</u> - Contribute sidewalk accessibility information using Google Street View.
<u>iNaturalist</u> - Explore and document nature; Biodiversity; app-based.	<u>Zooniverse</u> projects - We suggest <u>Nest Quest Go!</u> ; Transcribe historic records from nesting birds in North America.
<u>Globe at Night</u> - Report light pollution while stargazing; Astronomy; Evening; Printable data forms available.	<u>Instant Wild</u> - All projects classify species in camera trap images from different places around the world.
<u>Monitoring Air Quality</u> - Record local air quality using a portable sensor.	<u>Assessing Indoor Air Quality</u> - Monitor CO2 levels to determine if ventilation is adequate; currently a pilot program
<u>ISeeChange</u> - Share observations of weather and climate near you; app-based reporting.	<u>STAR Net Citizen Science Collection</u> - Choose from a variety of citizen science activities from vetted and trusted sources.

Embed the Project Finder On Your Library's Website



Make it easy to convert your website viewers to doers!

Go to SciStarter.org/widget/new:

1. Select the search filter and styles you want.
2. Add the generated widget embed code to your website.
3. And just like that, your community will find up-to-date, awesome citizen science projects from SciStarter.

Widget preview

Science we can
do together

pick an activity. ▼

pick a topic... ▼

search keywords

☐ Near me, or global



powered by
SciStarter

find them

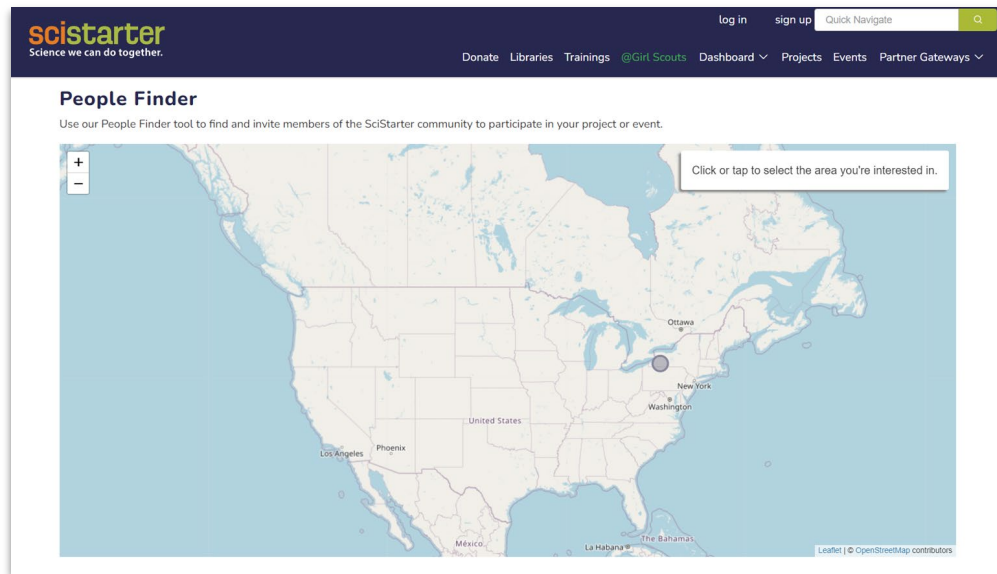


Hosting Citizen Science Events

Invite a Speaker

Invite subject-matter experts to
inspire and inform your audience!

- Expand your idea of a subject-matter experts.
- Find speakers on SciStarter.org/people-finder, [FabFems](#), [NASA's Night Sky Network](#), who could attend in-person or virtually.
- Have citizen [science kits](#) on display that your audience can borrow.
- Have computers ready for your audience to sign-up for SciStarter and participate in projects.



Citizen Science Kits



Kit Building Guides » Exploring Biodiversity



Kit Building Guide

EXPLORING BIODIVERSITY

KIT OVERVIEW

This kit introduces participants to the iNaturalist app and includes a clip-on lens that expands the photo capabilities of a smartphone. A pair of binoculars and a Community Field Book help support nature exploration and encourage participants to record notes

AT YOUR LIBRARY

Program Overview

- About the Program
- Participating Libraries
- Kit Feedback Survey
- Citizen Science: The Basics
- Contact

Citizen Science Kits

- Exploring Biodiversity
- Measuring Light in the Night
- Observing Pollinators
- Mapping Mosquito Habitats
- Monitoring Air Quality
- Zombie Hunting

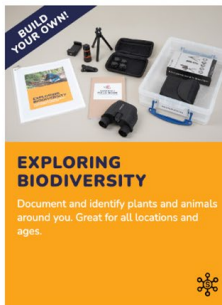
Resources for Librarians

- Join the Network
- Library Network Events
- Kit Building Guides
- Promotional Resources
- Online Training
- Online Library Training
- Guide to Citizen Science

For Community-Based Organizations

For Project Scientists

Kit Building Guides



Individual Kit Building Guide pages
(includes downloadable guide): SciStarter.org/library-build-a-kit

Host a BioBlitz

A BioBlitz is an event in which teams of volunteers work together to find and identify as many living species of plants and animals as possible.

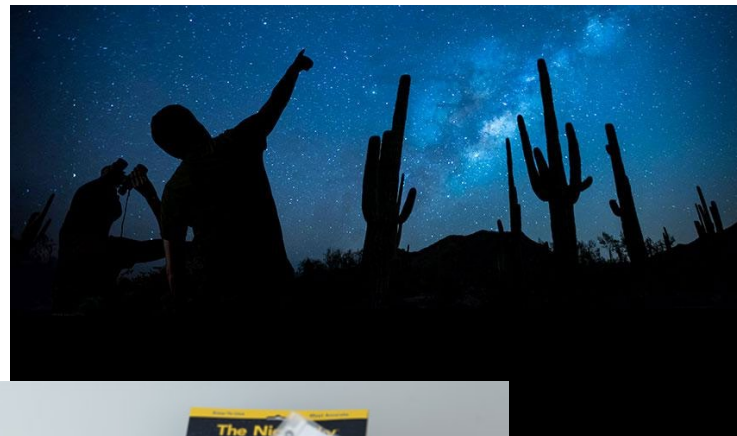
- Organize a meeting at a local park or forest.
- Invite local subject expert staff from federal, state or city parks to help identify habitats and species.
- Check out the [iNaturalist guide to developing a BioBlitz](#) to plan your event today.
- Have tablets ready with the iNaturalist app for your audience to add their data.
- Have an [Exploring Biodiversity kit](#) on display that your audience can borrow.



Host a Star Party

A Star Party is a gathering of amateur astronomers and curious people for the purpose of observing objects in the sky.

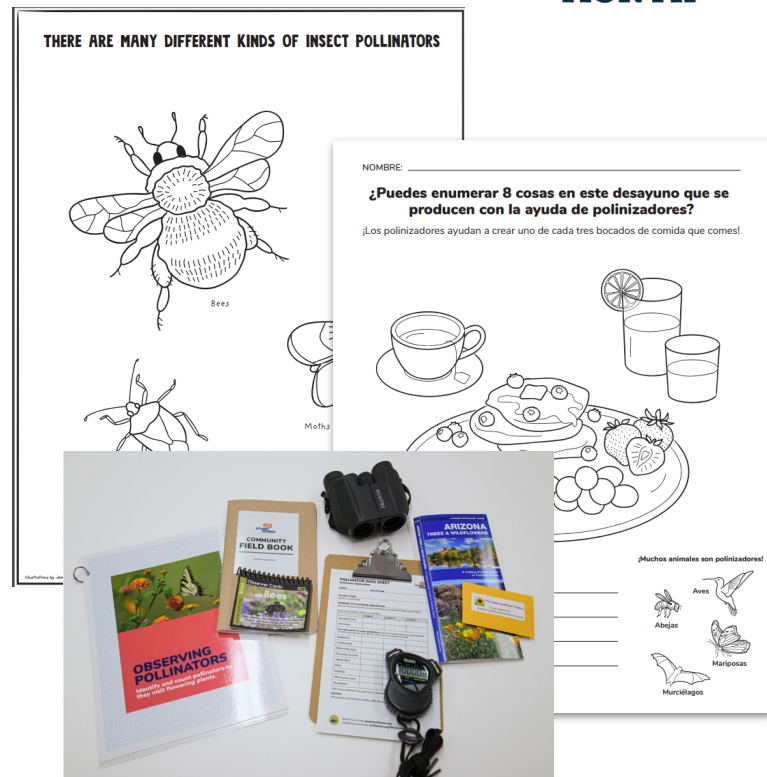
- Make it a daytime star party by highlighting other things in the sky, like the sun or clouds.
- Invite volunteers from a local astronomy club, [NASA's Night Sky Network](#), [International Dark Sky Association](#)
- Check out [NASA's Guide to Hosting a Start Party](#) to plan your event.
- Search the [STAR Net STEM Clearinghouse](#) or [NASA's Universe of Learning](#) for astronomy related resources and STEM activities.
- Have tablets ready with the Globe at Night or NASA's GLOBE Observe app
- Have a [Measuring Light in the Night kit](#) available to demonstrate using the sky quality meter.



Host a Pollinator Event

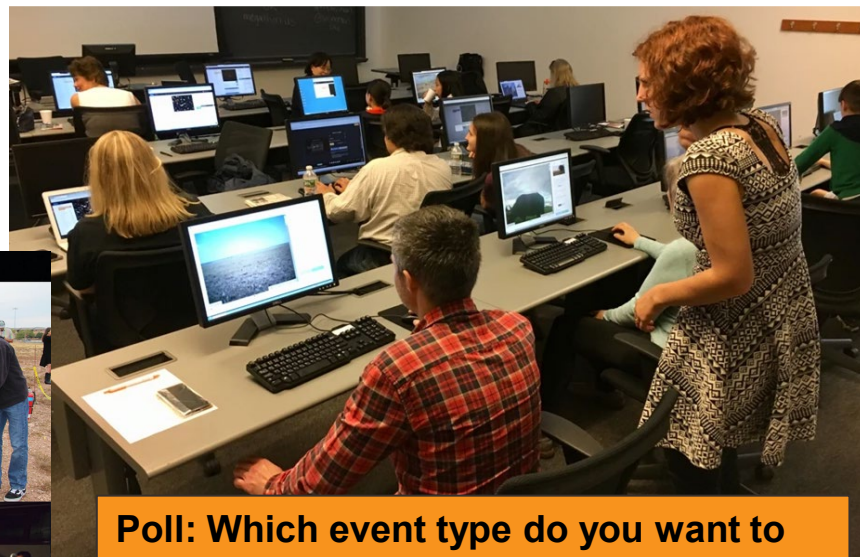
Many libraries are hosting events to support pollinator health and citizen science projects like The Great Sunflower Project and iNaturalist.

- Invite a master gardener or beekeeper. Contact your state's university extension office. [Master Gardener Directory](#) and [American Beekeeping Federation](#).
- Use the detailed pollinator coloring page ([English](#)), ([Spanish](#)) to learn about the different pollinators.
- Use the simple pollinator coloring page ([English](#)), ([Spanish](#)) for younger participants.
- Use the *Pollinators and Food* ([English](#)), ([Spanish](#)) worksheet to learn how pollinators help in the production of healthy food.
- Have a [Zombie Hunting kit](#) on display that your audience can borrow.
- Find flowering plants around the library or nearby park to hold a Great Sunflower Project data collection event using the [Observing Pollinator kit](#).



Other event ideas

- Host a workshop for youth
- Host a project marathon



Poll: Which event type do you want to know more about?

Are there other types of citizen science events that you've hosted?



**STEM
ACTIVITY**
Clearinghouse

STAR^{net}

www.clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org

***STAR* Net Resources for Planning Citizen Science Events**

About STAR Net

- Community of over 8000 library professionals interested in STEAM activities, exhibitions, and kits for their patrons (starnetlibraries.org)
- With federal funding from NASA and NSF, provides free training, exhibitions, kits, and eclipse glasses for the 2023 and 2024 eclipses!
- STEM Activity Clearinghouse has over 500 library vetted STEM activities (clearinghouse.starnetlibraries.org)
- STAR Net Community social media site with project specific groups and general interest STEM resource groups for you to interact with STAR Net educators and other librarians (community.starnetlibraries.org)





STAR Net and the 2023 and 2024 Eclipses

Sun...Moon...You!

ANNULAR SOLAR ECLIPSE
OCTOBER 14, 2023



APRIL 8, 2024
TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

Funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to provide:

- Approximately 5,000,000 eclipse glasses to public libraries in the U.S., D.C. and territories/protectorates
- In-person training in each state/territory
- Circulating kits to state libraries, including solar telescopes
- Training (in-person and online)
- An interactive community hosted on the STAR Net website



The existing STAR Net community will provide

- Access to the interactive community
- Vetted hands-on activities through the STEM Activity Clearinghouse
- Access to scientists, volunteers and eclipse subject matter experts (SMEs)

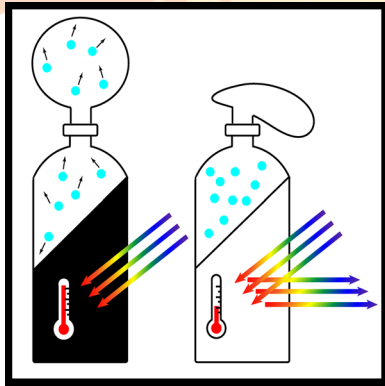
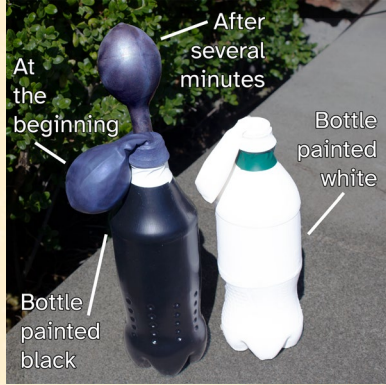


Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries

- [Getting Started with SEAL blog post](#)
 - Register for free solar viewing glasses and SEAL Newsletter
 - Links to virtual trainings
 - Eclipse science resources and more!
- [SEAL Spring Trainings](#)
 - Citizen Science Eclipse Programming
 - Apr 12, Apr 25, May 4, May 16



Resources



- [STEM Activity Clearinghouse](#)
 - [Eclipse Activity Collection](#)
 - [Citizen Science Collection](#)
 - Much, much, more
- Finding partners
 - Solar System Ambassadors
 - Night Sky Network
 - Eclipse Subject Matter Experts (coming soon!)

Add & Promote Your Event

A screenshot of the SciStarter website's "Event Finder" section. The header includes the SciStarter logo and navigation links like "log in", "sign up", and "Quick Navigate". Below the header, there are filters for "Events anywhere", "Only online events", "Near my current location", and "At a location". There are also date range selectors for "2023-04-01" and "2023-05-01". A dropdown menu for "What type of event?" is set to "Select one or more event types". A "find events" button is at the bottom. The main content area displays three event cards: "Citizen Science Twitter Conference 2023" with a blue bird icon, "Track monarch butterfly migration with Journey North" with a monarch butterfly image, and a third card with a person using a laptop and a purple balloon.

SciStarter.org/events

- Help people learn about your event
- Help us measure collective impact
- Access to ASU evaluation tools and data

A promotional banner for Citizen Science Month. The top section features the "CITIZEN SCIENCE MONTH" logo on the left, the text "You can make an impact!" in the center, and "GET STARTED! Find local events and projects to turn your curiosity into impact. CitizenScienceMonth.org" on the right. Below this, there are logos for SciStarter, ASU, and other partners. The bottom section features a large image of a woman, Veronika, at a kitchen sink, with the text "Turn your curiosity into impact" and "THIS IS CITIZEN SCIENCE". Below this, it says "Learn more at CitizenScienceMonth.org". A small text box on the right says "VERONIKA: Joining a national survey of pipe materials to help ensure safe water for all. #CitizenScience".



Upcoming Webinars & Opportunities



All Together Now™: Citizen Science in Your Summer Reading Program

March 29, 2023
11am Pacific/2pm Eastern

SciStarter.org/library-events

Poll: When is the best time for us to host professional development events for you to be able to attend?



Thank you!

Visit citizensciencemonth.org and complete the post-webinar survey.