

# I'm a Scientist, Get me out of here! June 2013



Nearly 7,000 students received close to 10,000 answers to their questions in the June 2013 event. Have a read to find out just what they wanted to know...

## Popular topics

Across all zones the range of questions asked in the June 2013 event was huge. Popular topics over all zones included space, evolution, philosophy and religion, animals, humans, the environment, medical developments and ethical issues.

From the fun:

[Would it be possible to pigment my skin so I look like a zebra?](#)

[Is there something astronomical about bananas?](#)

To the complex:

[Where is the Universe? It gives me a headache each time I think about this question...](#)

[How would humans have evolved differently if we had multiple suns?](#)

And the very creative:

[If you eat yourself, would you become twice as big, or cease to exist as matter?](#)

[If you had a fantastically built space ship, provisions for 5 years, and you simply flew up into space, where would you go? Do you know any galaxies you may run into?](#)

[If humans had wings how do you think it would affect our scientific views?](#)

Students were also interested in the scientists themselves:

[Do any of you live up to the nerdy stereotype that comes with being a scientist?](#)

In humans' brains and animals' bodies:

[Does everyone have exactly the same layout of 'tubes' in the brain? Or are they like fingerprints?](#)

[What are memories made of in our brains?](#)

[Which species of animal has the most efficient kidneys?](#)

And in the fundamentals of science, from physics to biology:

[What is energy and why do we have it, who thought that we need it and what would like be like without it?](#)

[If diseases are organisms can diseases themselves become diseased?](#)

[How big is the biggest cell in the world?](#)

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

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

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

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

"The questions some of you guys came up with was quite outstanding. Sometimes I found myself sitting at my computer during a chat thinking, why didn't I ever think to ask that?" – Alan Richardson, scientist

What did your students ask most about in the live chats?



### **Some great engagement**

#### **We had students teaching the scientists:**

*jamesagrear*: If you have a full memory stick and an empty one, will the full one weigh more?

*robertwoolfson*: A full memory stick won't weigh more, but it will contain more energy as information is a form of energy. The full memory stick will be less stable than the empty one

*jamesagrear*: but dont trapped electrons have a mass?

*robertwoolfson*: An empty memory stick has the same number of electrons, they're just more disordered

*jamesagrear*: check this link out

<http://news.softpedia.com/news/A-KindleLoaded-with-eBooks-Is-Heavier-than-an-Empty-One-Says-Scientist-230897.shtml>

*robertwoolfson*: You learn something every day. Wow, I did not expect that. I guess that makes sense as information is energy and energy is a form of mass.

*"I was so glad to see so many intelligent, well-informed, imaginative questions coming from the students! It is lovely to see that young people are being encouraged to think critically about the world around them, and actively try to find out more"* – Lyn Lim, scientist

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

#### **And lots of great discussions and fascinating facts:**

*sapphireskyjen* : is it true that if earth had less gravity, spiders would die?

*katybrown* : hmm, maybe! I guess the heavier you are, the less gravity you need – would all the spiders float away? That would be OK by me.

*eelynlm* : i'm not sure about spiders! but the rest of us might not do so well, either – our skeletal structures are suitable for this kind of gravity. whales, who live in the sea, have a different bone structure altogether!

*10whittao* : but without all the spiders, flies would take over the world

*peterbalfe* : If the flies weren't all killed they estimate in a year we'd be walking on a carpet 10 feet thick, crunchy!

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

*"I'm honestly amazed at the standard of the questions we were asked throughout the event"* – Dave Farmer, scientist