Citizen Inquiry

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Outline

• Citizen Inquiry
  • New approach to technology-mediated science learning
  • Synergy of Citizen Science, Inquiry-based Learning, Online Social Networking
• Aim:
  • To promote active and successful participation of citizens in the scientific process.
  • To develop new skills such as critical attitudes and questioning.
• Can citizens engage in successful scientific investigation?

Methods

Design-based research method:
• Iterative collaboration with the participants for the project design and integration.
• Customization of the nQuire inquiry learning toolkit for Citizen Inquiry.
• Evaluation of the project through qualitative and quantitative methods.

Design-study #1: “Inquiring Rock Hunters”
• Participants: geology experts and citizens interested in geology.
• Task: Amateur geologists run scientific investigations supported by experts, inquiry and collaboration tools.

What am I looking for?

• Engagement with the inquiry process
• Forms of engagement
• Effectiveness of nQuire tools
• Type and use of support provided

Supervisory team: Prof Eileen Scanlon & Prof Mike Sharples