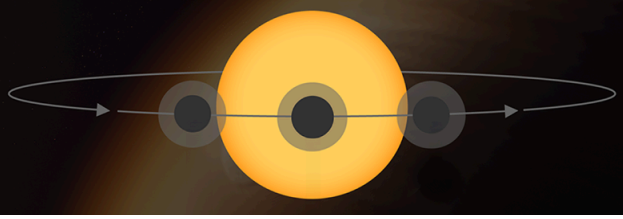


Smithsonian Data Labs

DIY PLANET SEARCH

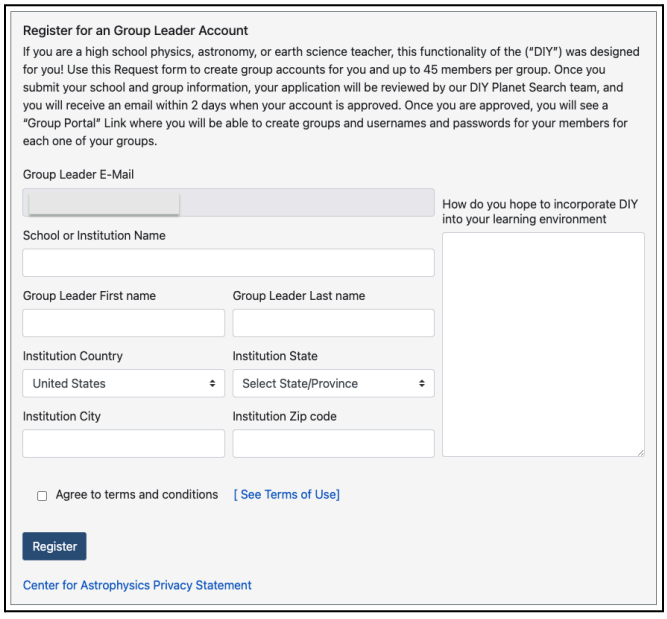
How To Use DIY Planet Search With A Group

DIY Planet Search is designed to support learner-driven explorations through the online platform and accompanying student notebook. A key feature of the DIY Planet interface is that it enables a group of learners to collaboratively generate a light curve from real exoplanet data. Instead of a single student having to measure all 100 images in a typical exoplanet data set, a group of 20 students could each measure 5 images using the group accounts that you create for them, and those measurements will all appear on the same graph. The educator account also gives you access to review student measurements, which can be helpful in facilitating your group and identifying student difficulties with the measurement tool.

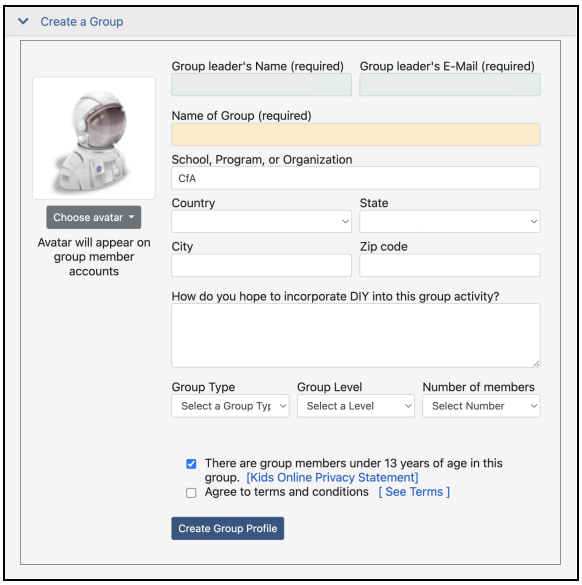
While participants can work individually, in small groups, or as a class, they will each need access to a computer with a standard Web browser. Be sure to test DIY Planet Search at your organization prior to using it with your participants.

Sign Up For a Educator/Group Leader Account

Log in to your personal account and open the drop down menu under your username and select "**Request Educator Account**". Then complete the form to register for a Group Leader Account, and follow the instructions to provide your organization and group information. Once you submit your organizational information, our DIY Planet Search Team will review the request and you will receive an email within 2 days when your account is approved. *The group account allows you and each of your participants to take telescope images, and to store and retrieve individually personalized data and work collaboratively from the project's database.*



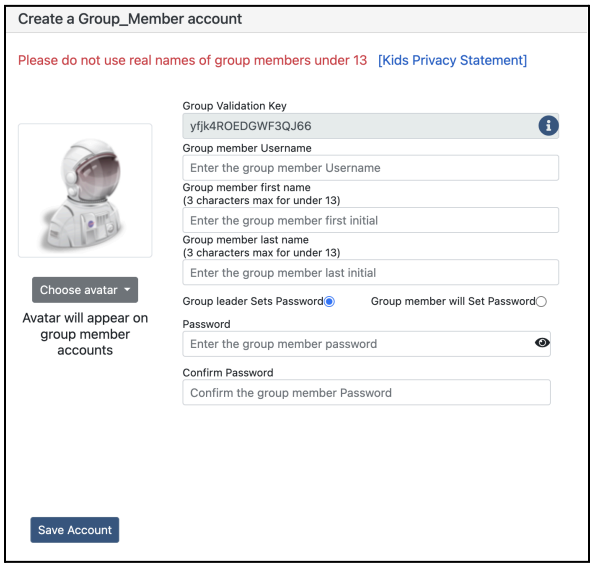
Creating Groups



Once you have received your approval email, two new "Group Portal" drop down menu items will appear in your account ("Manage Group Accounts" and "Group Data"). Visit "Manage Group Accounts" to create groups for each of your classes/programs. You'll need to create a group profile before adding participants to your group.

1. Identify a group name (e.g. Exoplanet Workshop Fall 2021). This name, along with your organization name, will identify any data you publish to the DIY community.
2. Fill out the form describing your group, specifying the # of Group Members (up to 45 per group) and agreeing to Smithsonian and DIY Planet Search terms and Kids Privacy conditions. *(Educators please note: we have constructed the site to minimize collection of Personally Identifiable Information - PII - from children under 13. You may want to uncheck the box stating your group includes members under 13 if your participants are all adults or older teens.)*
3. Click on "Create Group Profile"

Creating Individual Student Profiles



1. Click on "Create New Group Member Profile"
2. Create a username for your first participant - **your participant will need this username to log into their account within this group.** We suggest that educators and group leaders create usernames that protect the identity of participants under 13.
3. Add Group Member first and last names, up to 3 characters to distinguish individuals (this information is for YOUR convenience to identify the participants in your group, but the 3 character limit minimizes our collection of personally identifiable information - PII)
4. You can either set the passwords for your participants yourself, or you can allow your group members to set their own passwords (in which case they will need the Group

Validation Key. Passwords must be at least 8 characters long and contain 1 uppercase letter, 1 lowercase letter, 1 number, and at least one of these special characters: ! % & @ # $ ^ * ? _ ~

5. Click on “Save Account” and a button will appear to “Create New Member”

Once all your Group Member Profiles are set up, you can manage and edit them by clicking on the Group Profile Name on the Manage Group Accounts page.

Reviewing Student’s Work

As a Group Leader, you may review your students' work in the Measure Brightness and Interpret and Share tools. You can review their measurements as well as read their individual interpretations of the class graph. (Alternatively, you may ask students to take screenshots of those aspects of the Lab you want them to hand in to you.)

SCHEDULING THE PROJECT

You can start DIY Planet Search at any time, since there are exoplanets observable on practically every night of the year. For future planning, calendars of upcoming exoplanet targets are on the *Schedule Target* section of the “DIY Tools” page of the website, and get updated every couple months.

Images Expire!

Once you take your telescope images, *they will only remain accessible from the Website for 30 days.* (Student work -- including measurements, graphs and written comments -- remains on the Website without expiring.)

Plan for Clouds

Be aware, it may be cloudy when you take your images. If so, simply use the telescope again on another night. You may want to take images for several ExoPlanet targets during the week you begin, to raise the probability of getting good data. Finally, DIY Planet Search allows you and your students to request recently-observed data (up to 1 month in the past) as well as to schedule future observations in order to give you the greatest probability of getting good data.

Unlimited Access

There is no limit to the number of times you can access the telescopes, and no limit to the number of images you can take. (But remember, each image will be deleted from our server 30 days after you take it.)

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