**Citizen science apps**

**Why Citizen Science for Water Quality?**

<https://terra.nasa.gov/citizen-science/water-quality>

Mobile applications for smartphones and tablets engage students in real-world data collection and offer ways to contribute information useful to scientists. Some of the more commonly used apps are listed below:

1. *CyanoTRACKER*- a water quality application for reporting harmful algal bloom (HABs) in lakes, ponds, etc.

<http://www.cyanotracker.uga.edu/>

1. *Clean Water Hub*- Share the water quality data from your local streams. Make an impact in communities across the nation.

<https://www.cleanwaterhub.org/>

1. Scistarter- science we an do together- find a project

<https://scistarter.com/finder>

1. Citizen Science- over hundreds of projects to connect students with real-research opportunities

<https://www.citsci.org/>

1. Marine Debris Tracker - allows you to help make a difference by checking in when you find trash on our coastlines and waterways. Data you submit is available to download online and you also have access to mapping all data, worldwide.

<http://www.marinedebris.engr.uga.edu/about-2/>

1. *Secchi App*- help in the global scientific experiment to study marine phytoplankton; Participants create a Secchi Disk, which is a tool to measure water turbidity, and use it with the Secchi app

<https://scistarter.com/project/764-Secchi-App>

1. *Lake Observer*, A Mobile App for Recording Lake and Water Observations- he Lake Observer app is for both research scientists and citizen scientists to record lake and water quality observations. Lake Observer is part of a crowd-sourcing platform to facilitate the collection and sharing of lake- and water-related information across the globe

<https://www.lakeobserver.org/>

**In-depth explorations**

There are several topics associated with water studies that are relevant to the everyday lives of students and can inspire them find out more about the topic. Some big issue topics in water studies are listed below. Use these topics/issues to engage students with science, helping them use critical thinking to delve more deeply into these concerning issues. Ask students to take on the role of a citizen scientist, collect and develop information pertaining to the topic chosen, and present their findings as to whether they would support or oppose the topic. Encourage persuasive ways to present findings and information.