



The Y-CITYSCI: A Youth-Led Citizen Science Network for Community Environmental Assessment would like to share information with you about free citizen science apps that you can explore at home. With citizen science, the public can have fun collecting data in their community while contributing to scientific research.

Spider Spotter



Spider Spotter is a citizen science app that you can use to track information about spiders. The app's interface is user friendly and allows everyone, not just scientists, to learn more about spiders.

How to use the app?

When initially opening the app, it provides a brief tutorial on how the app works. Additional instructions can be found below for easy use. First, if you spot a spider in your home or around your community, take a picture. Upload the picture of the spider onto the app by pressing the large plus-sign on the bottom of the screen. If you know what kind of spider it is, you can upload the picture with the spider's common name. You can also explore other people's pictures of different species of spiders. If you don't know what type of spider it is, you might be able to find the name of the spider by looking at other people's uploads. If you spot a spider web in your community, you can also upload a picture of it and identify what type of spider constructed the web you found.

How you can get the app?

To download and install the app on Android and Apple devices, use the following links.

Get the app for an [Android!](#)

Get the app for an [Apple!](#)

Once you download the app, create your own account using an existing email address. Then, create a username and password that you can remember.

Why using Spider Spotter is fun and important?

Spider Spotter lets you take pictures of spiders and their webs, then upload the images with the location you found them. This information is shared with the Spider Spotter community where scientists use these data to monitor spider species and their locations. The user can also learn other interesting spider facts such as web identification and the benefits and dangers of specific spiders.

For more information, visit the [Spider Spotter website](#).

Now that you have the Spider Spotter app, **we challenge you** to find and identify one spider in your community. Take a picture and describe why you find it interesting. Submit your answer by direct messaging our Instagram account at [@YCITYSCI](#) for the chance to win a prize and your answer be featured on our page! New Spider Spotter related questions will be added to our Instagram story and page throughout the week. Respond to these questions to have a chance to win additional prizes!

Check out more Y-CITYSCI activities at [ycitysci.wordpress.com](#) and [www.siestemcenter.org/ycitysci/](#)



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