



Loss of the Night



Loss of the Night is a citizen science app that people can use to estimate how many stars they see, and by extension, how bright the night sky is. The goal of the project is to track changes in artificial sky brightness, or light pollution, in urban areas over the long term. The app's interface is user friendly and allows everyone to learn more about stars and light pollution. You can use Loss of the Night to track how skyglow is changing at your home over time!

How to use the app

When initially opening the app, it provides a brief tutorial on how the app works. By pointing your phone at the night sky and following a circle and arrow, the app will lead you to a specific star. You then tell the app whether you can see it or not. You must track at least 7 stars in the same evening for the science to be valid. The database is refreshed daily, so you might have to wait a day to see your observations pop-up on the app. For data collected from the Loss of the Night app, a chart will appear showing details of which stars other citizen scientists observed.

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 will remember.

Why using Loss of the Night is fun and important

Loss of Night shows you the locations of stars from where you are, helps you learn more about stars, and allows you to contribute to the collection of light pollution data.

For more information, visit the [Loss of the Night website.](#)

Now that you have the Loss of the Night app, **we challenge you** to use the app to find 7 stars in one night. Take a screenshot and describe why you find it interesting. Submit your answer by messaging our Instagram account at [@YCITYSCI](#) for the chance to win a prize and your answer be featured on our page! New Loss of the Night 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.siuestemcenter.org/ycitysci/](#)

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