



GLOBE Observer Land Cover



GLOBE Observer Land Cover is a citizen science app that verifies and contributes to satellite imagery. GLOBE Observer Land Cover helps scientists improve the different kinds of maps they make with satellite imagery. On the most detailed satellite-based maps, each pixel is about 330 feet by 330 feet. This means small areas such as city parks may be too small to show up on maps. The guides citizen scientist step by step through the process and allows everyone, not just scientists, to contribute to the maps we all use.

How to use the app

Upon opening the app, select the Land Cover tile and follow the prompts. Find an open area at least 50 meters in each direction. Align your phone's camera to the four cardinal directions as well as skywards and downwards, and snap away! You can provide additional information such as the existing land covers you see as well as the amount of each type of land cover. It is best if you can perform these actions during solar noon (around 1 pm in St. Louis) or when a satellite is overhead. This is important as it allows scientists to know where the Sun is in your pictures or compare your pictures to satellite pictures directly. Check out the Land Cover Map to see where data is missing!

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 GLOBE Observer Land Cover is fun and important

NASA designed GLOBE Observer Land Cover to allow you to use your phone to help scientist verify and study satellite imagery and improve the maps scientist use for wildlife management, natural disaster management, climate change impacts, as well as many other fields of science.

For more information, visit the [Globe Observer Land Cover website](#).

Now that you have the GLOBE Observer Land Cover app, **we challenge you** to adopt a pixel and upload one site's photos. Send us a picture of you and your site and tell us something interesting that you learned about land cover and why you picked your site. Submit your answer by direct messaging our Instagram account at [@YCITYSCI](#) for the chance to win a prize and be featured on our page! New GLOBE Observer Land Cover 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/](#)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville STEM Center, Department of Environmental Sciences, and Department of Applied Health