11-14-2015

DIY Natural History: Public Engagement through Digital Collections

Mark F Anderson
University of Iowa
DIY Natural History
Public Engagement through Digital Collections

Iowa History Camp  
Nov. 14, 2015  
Des Moines, Iowa

Mark F. Anderson  
Digital Collections Librarian  
The University of Iowa
100+ collections, 750,000+ images, sound, video

University of Iowa Libraries, Special Collections and Archives:
- Civil War Diaries
- Henry Wallace Papers
- Historic Iowa Landownership Maps
- Ding Darling Editorial Cartoons
- Stradivari Quartet Recordings

University Campus Partners:
- UI Museum of Art
- Office of the State Archaeologist Photographs
- Dentistry College Class Photographs
- Iowa Journalists Oral Histories
- University of Iowa Alumni Publications

Off-Campus Contributors:
- Figge Art Museum Grant Wood Scrapbooks
- Live From Prairie Lights Readings
- WWII Iowa Press Clippings
- Iowa City Foreign Relations Council Videos
- Evelyn Birkby Scrapbooks and Recordings

http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu
Saturday April 23rd

This has been a day of some excitement. The surgeon in charge and several others called early on the morning of Mrs. Hazen and I were not quite ready to go out. So we had to talk with them about the case. The surgeon was very kind and almost seemed to say, 'Oh, did she not know when she could get to work, and return the whole scenario. And a continuous difference that she felt like going to town. I shall not forget the ride in the buggy which they took us to which we agreed to let us have an arm in the balance. The girls attended to town and raised the 'day.'
Crowdsourcing the Civil War

June 7, 2011 / Permalink / Short URL

Have a little time to spare? Consider helping transcribe Civil War letters and diaries online.

In commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, the libraries of the University of Iowa put together the exhibit “‘Now Do Not Let Your Courage Fail’: Voices from the Civil War,” currently on display at the university, which incorporates letters and diaries from three manuscript collections. As a part of this exhibit documents were scanned and made available online here (image below).
Anyone else getting a really slow connection to this site?

Reddit the giant
Wants to pet the small website
Squishes it instead

Google analytics
http://www.reddit.com/r/todayilearned/comments/humy3/til_how_to_participate_in_history_while_sitting/
also received a letter from Mr. Vanacquay.
Jan 25 Weather clear and [belly?] as at spring. Nothing new in Camp.
Jan 26 Weather clear and warm cloudy this evening, looks like Storm I have a very sore foot caused by a [gathering?] on my heel. Nothing new.
Jan 27 Snowed a little last night. Raining by spells all day. Had an Oyster Supper last night. Good news in the papers think the Rebels are getting sick of their Job. Wrote a letter to Sally
Civil War Diaries and Letters

8,358 of 9,154 pages have been transcribed!

- Joseph Kohout Letters, 1863-1865 (3% started)
- George Hall Letters, 1861-1864 (15% started)
- Clara Vinson Weaver's Letters to Husband James B. Weaver, 1862-1864 (16% started)
- Mary Shelton Diary, 1864 (24% started)
- Narrative of the Western Theatre in the American Civil War, 1865 (34% started)
- Mann Family Letters, 1851-1856 (66% started)
Iowa Women’s Lives: Letters and Diaries

9416 of 9732 pages have been transcribed!
Building the Transcontinental Railroad

1872 of 1872 pages have been transcribed!
Citizen Science

Galaxy Zoo is a Zooniverse project. Our Projects

Classify

Classify

Note: Please always classify the galaxy in the center of the image.

SHAPE
Is the galaxy simply smooth and rounded, with no sign of a disk?

Smooth
Features or disk
Star or artifact
The Bumblebee Project - Set 1

Please help us create digital records for the United States National Entomological Collection. We will be transcribing the labels of specimens of bumblebees. Bumblebees are found in the Bombus genus (Hymenoptera: Apidae). They are social insects that feed on nectar and collect pollen to feed their young. Bumblebees are very important pollinators. Learn how to transcribe this project and get started. The digitization of this project has been made possible with the generous support of Pixel Acuity, LLC. Please contact Jessica Bird (birdj@si.edu), Department of Entomology, for any questions or comments about the transcriptions and thanks to all of you for your help!

The Bumblebee Project - Set 10

Please help us create digital records for the United States National Entomological Collection. We will be transcribing the labels of specimens of bumblebees. Bumblebees are found in the Bombus genus (Hymenoptera: Apidae). They are social insects that feed on nectar and collect pollen to feed their young. Bumblebees are very important pollinators. Learn how to transcribe this project and get started. The digitization of this project has been made possible with the generous support of Pixel Acuity, LLC. Please contact Jessica Bird (birdj@si.edu), Department of Entomology, for any questions or comments about the transcriptions and thanks to all of you for your help!

The Bumblebee Project - Set 11

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Oological Collection of T. W. Dewing, New York

AOU Number: 616  
Species: Chionolea leucura (Linnaeus)

Set Mark: 3/8  
13 and 3 swallow

Collected in: Cornell, New Hampshire

Name of Collector: T. W. Dewing

Date: June 10  
1895

Number in Set: 3  
Incubation: fresh

This set of 3 eggs collected by myself.
About UIMNH Collections

Most collections at the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History originated in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and came from University expeditions, faculty collections, and private donors. Egg collecting was a popular hobby before 1918, when the Migratory Bird Treaty Act went into force to protect birds and made it illegal to take, possess, import, export, sell, purchase, barter, or offer for sale, purchase, or barter, any migratory bird, or the parts, nests, or eggs of such a bird except under the terms of a valid permit... The Museum maintains current permits to have and use these collections. By transcribing data associated with our historic collections, you are helping the Museum to get information about these specimens into the hands of researchers all around the globe, so they can study this valuable scientific resource.

Key to Sample Egg Cards

SAMPLE COMPOUND CARD

1. Set Mark
2. Eggs in lot
3. AGU Number
4. Other Numbers
5. Common Name
6. Scientific Name
7. Collector
8. Location
9. Date
10. Incubation Stage
11. Hatching
12. Notes

Note: Fill in fields contain similar data. Transcribe the one that is most complete.

SAMPLE EMPTY FORM CARD

13. Number
14. Location
15. Date
16. Notes
The 80/20 rule

Pareto principle

Law of the vital few

Principle of factor sparsity
THE 80/20 RULE OF SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING

By Ryan Joneson

If you aren't familiar with the 80/20 rule in the business world, it basically means that 80% of your revenue comes from 20% of your clients. Therefore you should focus your efforts on gaining more clients like your top 20%.

In short, spend more time on the things that matter, and less time on the things that don't. It's a rule that you can apply to your career, relationships, diet, and even social media.

80/20 rule in action!

In mid-October, 588 transcriptions (starts + edits)
28 registered users
20% = 6 users
Those top 6 had done 467/588
Or...
79.4%
Questions?

Student giving a speech in class, 1940s
The University of Iowa
http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm/ref/collection/ictcs/id/3202