

WEBSITE REVIEW

MyScope Outreach website – Zoom into the micro-world

www.myscopeoutreach.org

Reviewed by Jodie Lawson-Santos (and some of her students), Specialist Science Teacher, Garran Primary School, ACT.

The MyScope™ Outreach website is a fantastic new resource for teachers throughout Australia to use in their classrooms.

Are you looking for a free, high-quality resource? *Done.*

Are you in need of an innovative tool for STEM education? *Done.*

Do you want your students to have access to incredibly powerful microscopes and have magnification at their fingertips? *Done.*

Let me introduce you to the MyScope Outreach website. I have used this website with students, from Year 3 upwards. The website is a free, interactive STEM tool for students to explore inner space.

If you and your students love science and want to zoom in and examine objects in the micro-world, then this website is for you.

I highly recommend that teachers, and children from about eight years old and up, visit this website to learn about scanning electron microscopes (SEM). There's an excellent glossary to help with understanding the more scientific words; easy-to-follow activities to explore and interact with clear, remarkably close images using a SEM; and challenges to really get young brains thinking.

I wonder what discoveries you and your students will make using this online microscopy site? Here's what some of my students thought.

"This website has taught me so much about 'the world that we can't see with our eyes'. I completed three challenges, once I learnt how to use the simulator. I especially enjoyed the design challenge where we had to design four drone wings that would be waterproof in a



rainstorm. I definitely recommend this website for any kids out there because it is so amazing and it is 'shocking' what you will find out!" (Tia, Year 6)

"I love how you have a picture that shows you a microscope and what the microscope is doing." (Ryan, Year 5)

"I love this website! I especially love the 'Let's Zoom In'. I enjoyed it so much as I have never seen some of those things before. I love the glossary because if you don't know what some of the words mean, you can look them up in the glossary." (Ashley, Year 6)

"I have learnt so much from the MyScope website! It is so much fun looking at things SO close up!" (Julie, Year 5)

"I loved the challenge 'What do you see?' because I got to look at an object through zoom from angles I have never seen before!" (Sammy, Year 5)

"Love this website! It has an electron microscope for free, while real ones can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. The website has simple guides to help you understand and make it easier to use. There is a vast amount of fact sheets to explain how SEMs (scanning electron microscopes) work and a simple but vast glossary with all the words you must know. The simulations are amazing and it feels like you're using a real microscope. The easy to use controls make it easy to zoom in, contrast and adjust brightness. Simple diagrams help show what a real microscope would be doing. There's information about what each setting does. There are also fun activities, plus challenges, that makes MyScope Outreach a bucket load of fun!" (Joji, Year 6)