

INQUIRY ACTIVITY 12.2



Network Science—Exploring Online Projects

In this inquiry activity you are going to visit the Web sites of four network science projects to determine and evaluate their attributes. This activity can be done individually or as a group project.

Materials

- Access to the Web sites of the Global Thinking Project (<http://www.gsu.edu/~www.gtp>), GLOBE (<http://www.globe.gov>), Hands-On Universe (<http://www.handsonuniverse.gov>), and Journey North (<http://www.learner.org/jnorth/>)

Procedures

1. Use the chart in Figure 12.1 to determine the attributes of one or more of the four network science projects posted in the chart. You should visit the Web site and use any of the resources at the site to complete the chart and evaluate the project.
2. Share your findings with other members of your team or the class.

Minds-On Strategies

1. How do these projects contribute to the public's understanding of science?
2. In what ways do these projects make use of the science-as-inquiry theme and constructivism in their structure?
3. What is the role of technology in these projects? Could they be successful without technology? Why do you think so?

Attribute	Global Thinking Project	Globe	Hands-On Universe	Journey North
Grade Level				
Availability				
Structure				
Content				
Data Sharing				
Data Analysis Tools				
Internet Use				
Rating on a Scale of 1–5 (5 being outstanding)				

Figure 12.1 Network Science Analysis Chart. *Source:* The template for the chart is based on Feldman, A., Konold, C., and Coulter, B. *Network Science a Decade Later: The Internet and Classroom Learning*. Mahwah, N.J.: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2000, pp. 28–29.