

# More Observations in Schools for Promoting Astronomy and Sky Protection

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**Abstract.** In astronomy it is important to promote observation and the quality of the sky is essential for a good observation impact. It is important that children have a nice memory of their observations in a non-polluted sky. Using students as agents of change it is possible to promote good practice for sky protection in society.

**Keywords.** Education, Motivation, Observation, Light Pollution.

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## 1. Contents

It is imperative to transfer the enthusiasm of the teachers to their students or pupils. It is not always possible, but we have to present our lessons in an attractive format. It is essential to grab and keep the attention of the students. If it is feasible, we can use surprise as a tool to get and maintain interest: observation is often a useful resource.

All the schools have a sky above their buildings, it must be used to observe and take measurements. If the school does not have instruments to carry out observations, we can encourage students to produce their own devices. We probably lose precision, but we gain motivation, and this is much more relevant. They learn by doing, observing and reasoning. It is important to promote rationality, curiosity and creativity. In our society which has a great presence of pseudo-sciences, it is necessary to endorse the scientific spirit.

What are the aspects that people best remember? Without doubt, memories linked to positive emotions. If we feel a passion related to some astronomical observation, we will keep it in mind and we will add a positive connotation to astronomy. This relationship will stay with the person for some time and it will be a tie that will not be broken easily. It is good that the experiences, and in special the first experiences with astronomy, are exciting. We must get the students to feel the thrill!

People are beginning to enjoy astronomical tourism, because they cannot see the deep sky in their cities. Of course light pollution is a serious problem for astronomy, for ecology, but it is also important to us because we have lost a part of our heritage: the sky that humanity saw for centuries. We should demand a clear sky for our enjoyment and our emotions.

We should use all the above mentioned strategies such as causing surprise, enthusiasm, encouraging the participation of everybody and to get passionate about the sky above us and to fight against the light pollution.

## References

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