

Stimulating Discussions

It is exciting to get students involved in a lively debate. However, many are shy and might not feel they know enough to participate.

There are various techniques to get discussions going.



Science cafes run many activities which engage younger people. They find an informal location, better not a lecture hall. Ideally people relax with food and beverages.

A short video involving the topic could be shown. Then perhaps an outside expert could talk for 10-20 minutes. Then the moderator starts a discussion and nudges it along, encouraging participation by all.

The general site is <https://www.sciencecafes.org/>

Specific details on how to organize thing are at

<https://www.sciencecafes.org/for-organizers/#start-cafe>

This is mostly directed to people in their 20's, but it could be adapted for school clubs.

There are more ideas for staging debates at <https://www.cosmologistswithoutborders.org/debates>

Tom Vassos mentions several good questions.