Open Science Discovery for PhD students

Johan Vellekoop

Sara Decoster

Published on: May 30, 2021

License: [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License \(CC-BY 4.0\)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)

Johan Vellekoop, postdoctoral researcher in Geology and Palaeontology at Vrije Universiteit Brussel and KU Leuven, shows how citizens like fossil collectors are often active participants and stakeholders in palaeontology research and communication. Fossil enthusiasts actually play a critical role in palaeontology research as the vast majority of fossils in museums have been found by fossil hunters. Therefore, close collaboration between academia and the fossil collecting community is key. Also joint events and communication for researchers and citizens are important, as are training in outreach and communication for researchers to bring science to the public and interact with citizens.

[Watch Johan Vellekoop's presentation](#)