Board #3, Regular Season: #FlippersFirst
Board type: Collaborative
Created by: Evan Kuras
Materials:
https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/roxannebeltran/ano-nuevo-island-animal-count

In #FlippersFirst, teams will collect data about pinnipeds (seals and sea lions) on the island of Año Nuevo, California, and answer a ZO-specific research question about animal behavior. Your data collection efforts will advance a Citizen Science project in which members of the public (like you!) help a team of scientists study these important marine mammals. **Your ZO-specific research question to answer**: *Which animal are you more likely to see on land (as opposed to in the water): seals or sea lions?*

Instructions:
1. *Optional*: Orient yourself to the Año Nuevo Island Animal Count Project (https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/roxannebeltran/ano-nuevo-island-animal-count) by reading the About page and doing the Seals and Sea Lions tutorial again.
2. One team member should make an account in order to keep track of the team progress (under the RECENTS tab).
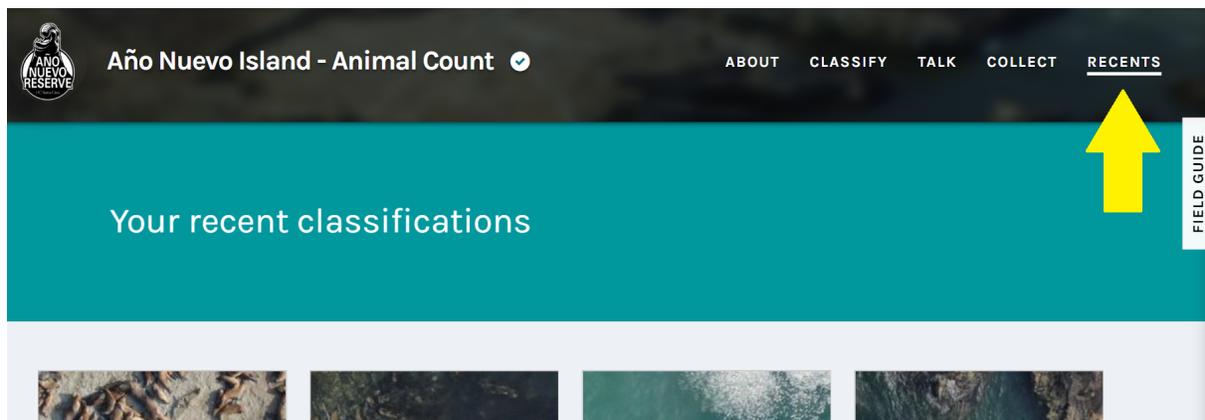
3. Decide how your team will answer the research question, and send the following to the Board Leader (erkuras@gmail.com), in writing: 1) what data your team will track from each image, 2) how you will organize your data, and 3) how you will analyze your data in order to answer the question. These answers are due after 25 minutes for teams of 3 or 35 minutes for teams of 2.
4. Classify at least 15 images. Note: There is no way to know whether your classifications are right or wrong, and for the purposes of ZO, that is OK. The Año Nuevo Research Team has multiple volunteers classify each picture to account for error.

5. Submit to the Board Leader (erkuras@gmail.com) 1) your answer to the question (based on your data), 2) a defense of your answer, and 3) a behavioral or ecological interpretation based on background research. These responses are due after 50 minutes (total) for teams of 3 or 70 minutes (total) for teams of 2.

Notes: Do not rush the classification of these images. *This is real science, so make it count*. You are welcome to classify more than 15 images - it may make your conclusion more convincing. Feel free to use whatever outside information that you can find, but your answer to the research question must be directly informed by the data you collect during the Game Night. Finally, don't be intimidated by statistics or what might be a "right" or "wrong" way to do this. Prioritize creativity and logic and you will do well.

Win Conditions: Your two submitted responses (methods and results) will be judged by the following criteria and your team will earn **1 point** for each criteria met (or 0.5 points for partial credit)

- **Methodical** – data collection, organization, and analysis protocols are clear and easy to follow
- **Convincing** – answer is supported by your data and accompanied by a persuasive defense
- **Meaningful** – interpretation links what you observed to what is known in a way that advances our overall knowledge of pinniped behavior on Año Nuevo