SpaceKidx: Inspiring Young Minds through Astronomy, Coding, Robotics and Authentic Data in Morocco, Africa

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Abstract

SpaceKidx is an innovative astronomy education initiative designed to engage children aged 6 to 14 through a fusion of space science, coding, and robotics. Active in both Morocco, Africa SpaceKidx introduces students to astronomy concepts using tools such as Scratch, MakeCode, and real astronomical data from observatories and citizen science platforms. Our workshops, camps, and school outreach programs emphasize inquiry-based learning and the use of authentic data to explore galaxies, the solar system, and celestial events. In this talk, I will showcase how SpaceKidx integrates hands-on digital activities with educational content aligned to national curricula, encouraging students to become young explorers of the universe. I will highlight specific projects where students analyze real sky data, simulate planetary motion, and even contribute to global observation campaigns. The program also trains educators and community leaders, providing them with open-source resources and culturally adaptable lesson plans. Through SpaceKidx, we aim to make astronomy accessible, inclusive, and exciting—especially in underserved communities. Our model demonstrates how astronomy education powered by authentic data and creative technologies can inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and curious global citizens.