

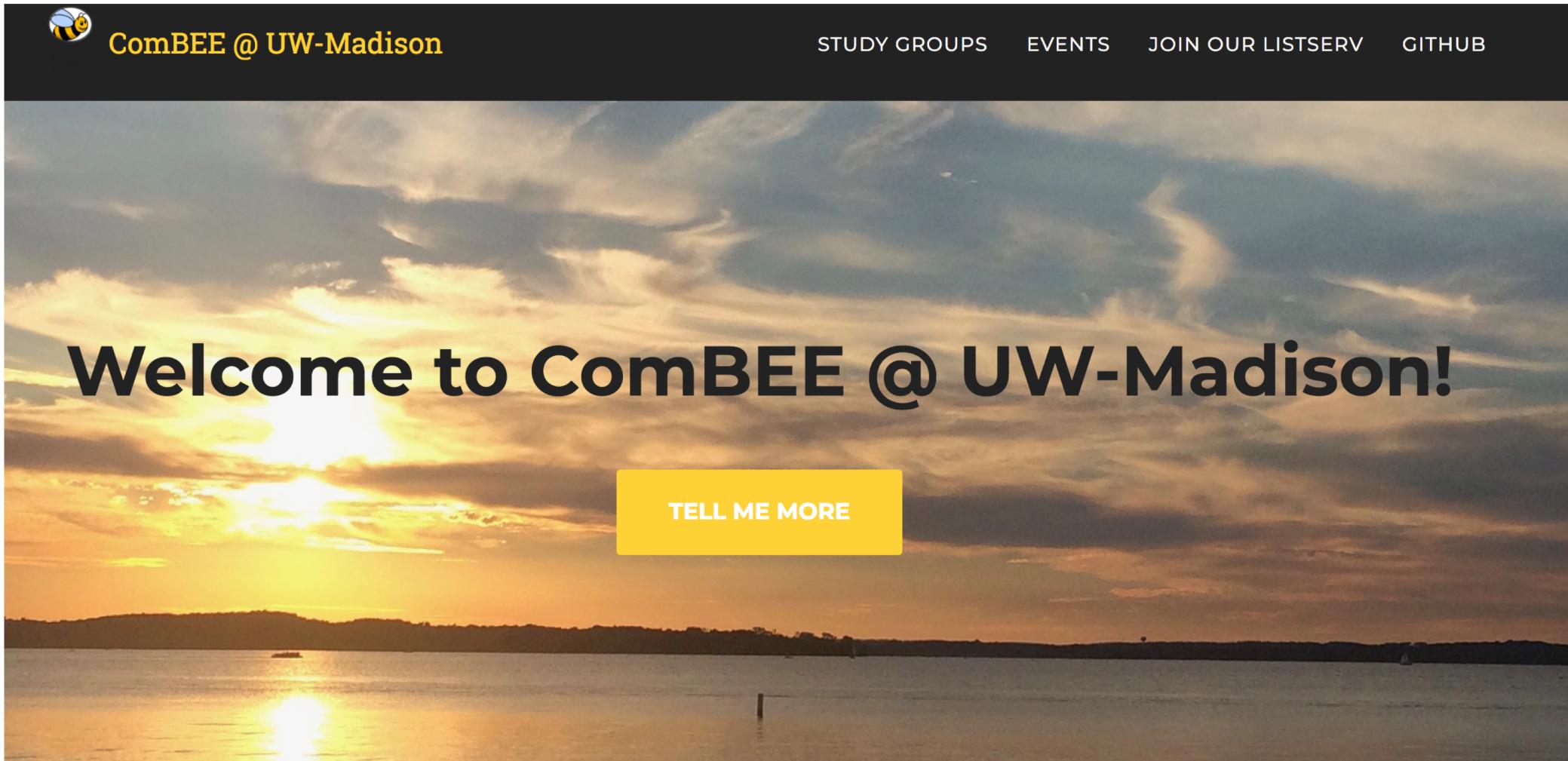
Study Groups - Why They Matter and How to Start Your Own

Sarah Stevens

Why Study Groups?

- Longer-term learning / support
- Informal
- Student motivated / Peer led
- Brings together novices and competent practitioners
- No grades
- Flexible content

Computational Biology, Ecology, and Evolution



Mozilla Science – Study Groups



Programs ▾

Resources

Projects

People

Blog

Study Groups

Connect with like-minded researchers at a regular, recurring Study Group session on your campus. If there's not a Study Group on your campus, help start one!

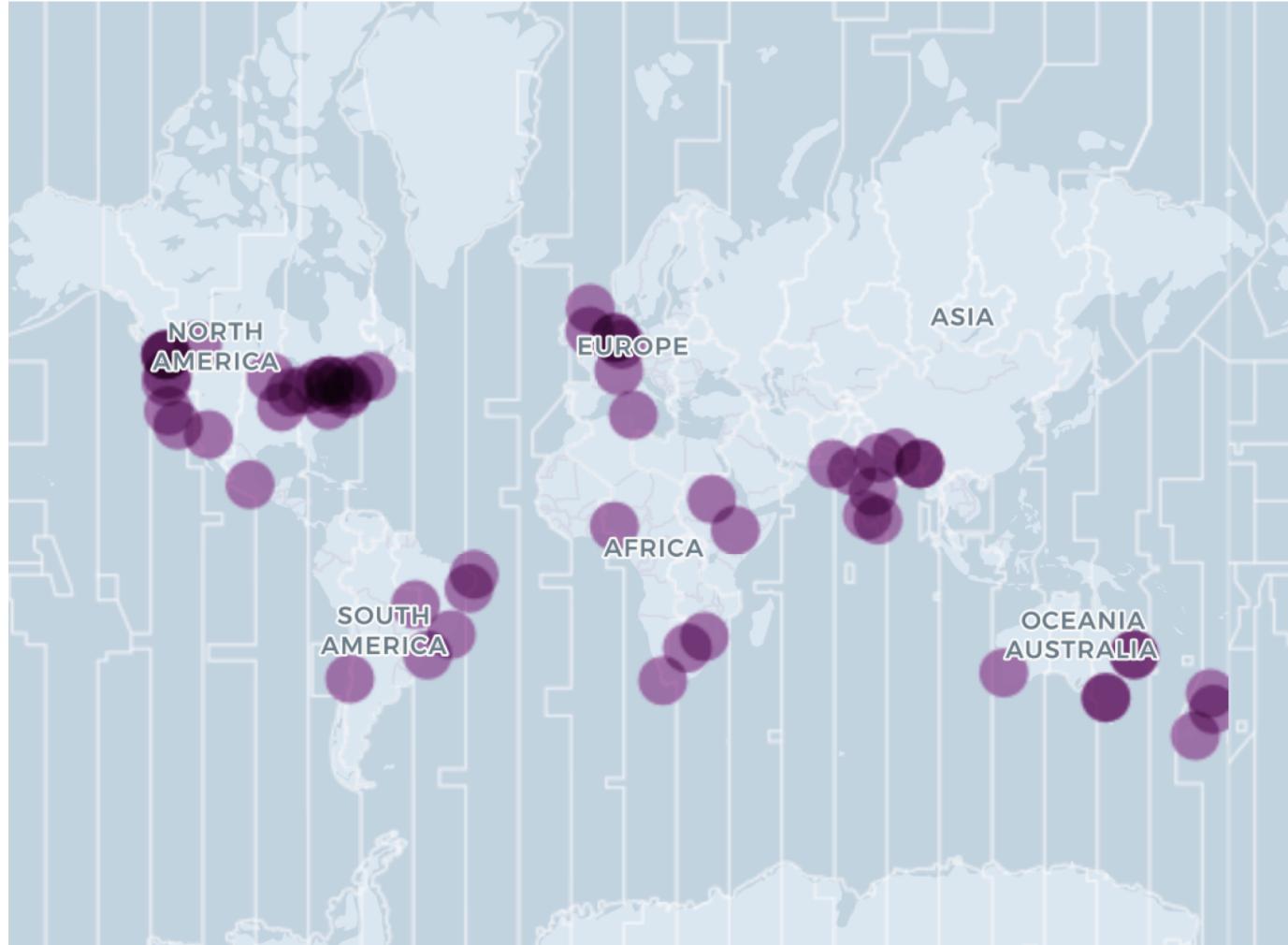
[Join a Study Group](#)

[Run a Study Group](#)

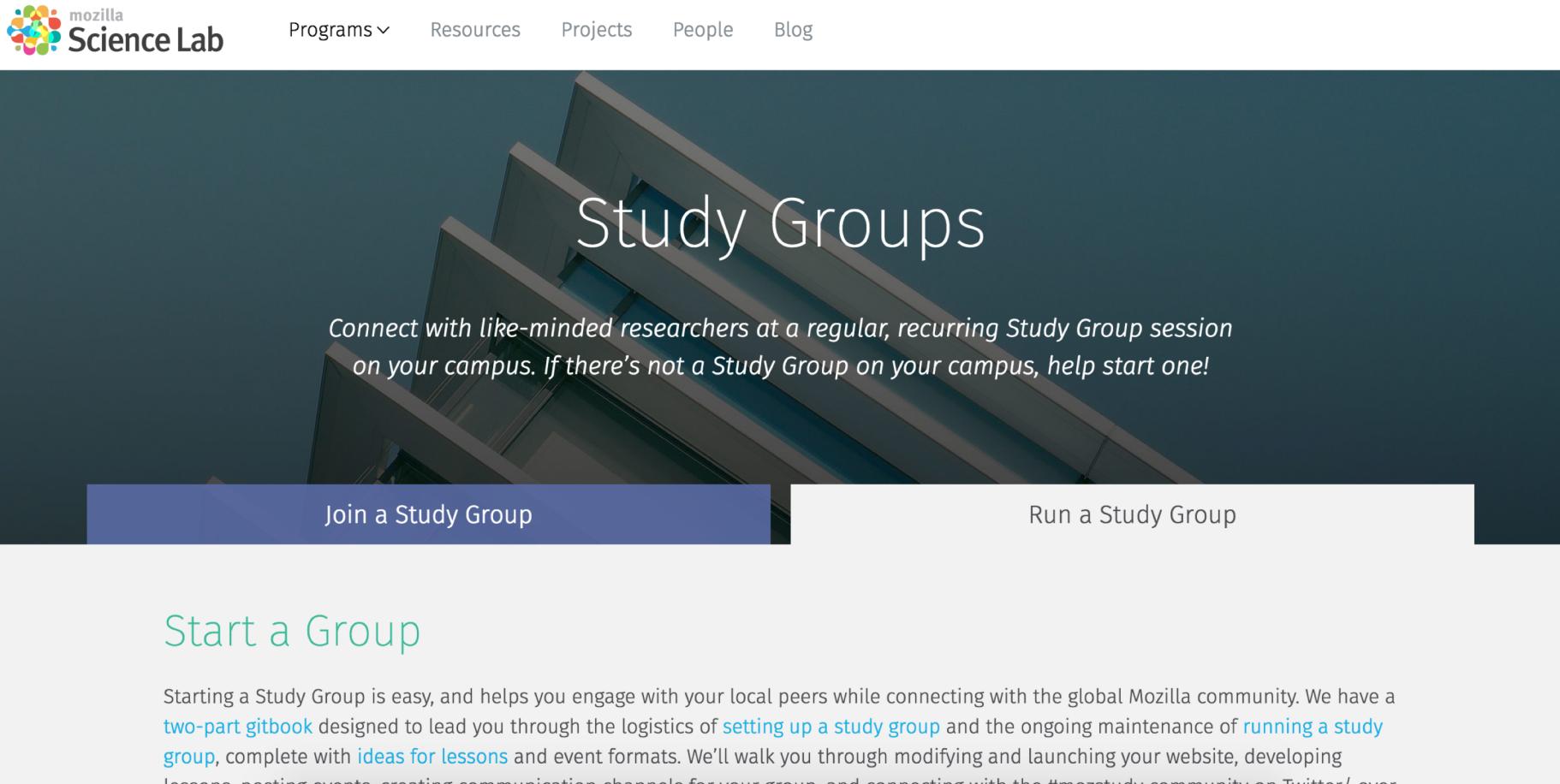
What is a Study Group?

A Study Group is a community of peers committed to learning and teaching each other. They're fun, informal meetups allowing participants to share skills, experiences, and ideas around open science, open source, code, and community in research. The goal of the Mozilla Study Group Project is to support this kind of peer-to-peer study by providing a simple set

Existing Study Groups



Or...Start Your Own!



The image shows the Mozilla Science Lab Study Groups landing page. At the top left is the Mozilla Science Lab logo with a colorful circular icon. A navigation bar includes 'Programs ▾', 'Resources', 'Projects', 'People', and 'Blog'. The main title 'Study Groups' is displayed prominently over a background image of a modern building's glass facade. Below the title is a descriptive text: 'Connect with like-minded researchers at a regular, recurring Study Group session on your campus. If there's not a Study Group on your campus, help start one!' Two buttons are visible: 'Join a Study Group' (blue) and 'Run a Study Group' (white). A large section below is titled 'Start a Group' in teal. It contains text about starting a study group, mentioning a two-part gitbook, setting up a study group, running a study group, ideas for lessons, and event formats. It also links to the Mozilla Study Group Twitter account.

mozilla
Science Lab

Programs ▾ Resources Projects People Blog

Study Groups

Connect with like-minded researchers at a regular, recurring Study Group session on your campus. If there's not a Study Group on your campus, help start one!

[Join a Study Group](#) [Run a Study Group](#)

Start a Group

Starting a Study Group is easy, and helps you engage with your local peers while connecting with the global Mozilla community. We have a [two-part gitbook](#) designed to lead you through the logistics of [setting up a study group](#) and the ongoing maintenance of [running a study group](#), complete with [ideas for lessons](#) and event formats. We'll walk you through modifying and launching your website, developing [lesson plans](#), hosting events, creating communication channels for your group, and connecting with the #mozstudy community on Twitter!

Handbook to get you started



Introduction

The open science movement presents many opportunities to reimagine the way we do research. Evidence continues to mount that the open publication of [data](#) and [papers](#) benefits the researchers who publish them, and the creation, modification and reuse of software is becoming [commonplace](#) in many fields of research. And yet, few places exist to support and encourage the exploration of these skills and ideas; where does a researcher go to learn these techniques and start these conversations?

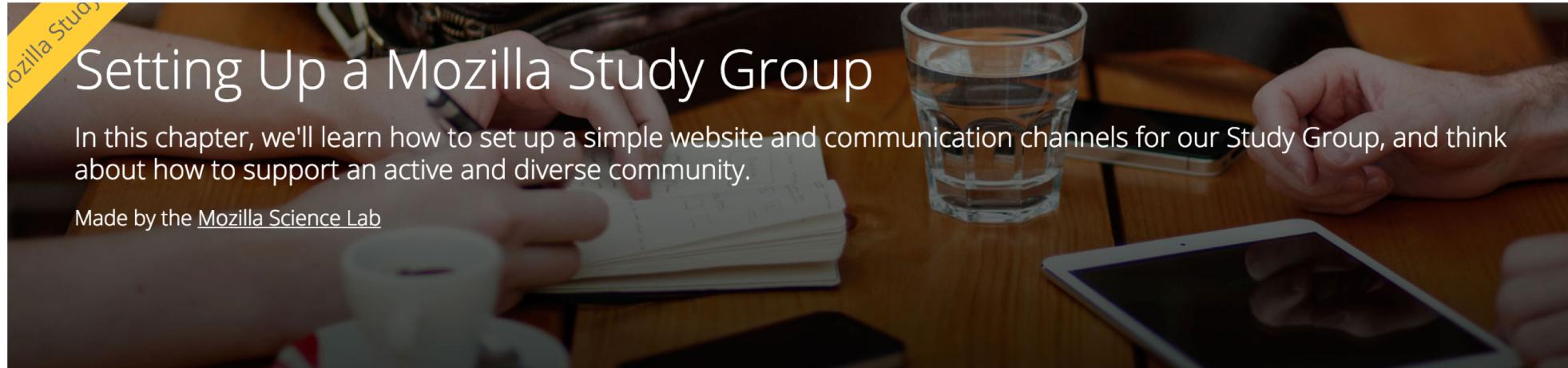
It's possible to explore these opportunities effectively today by creating a Mozilla Study Group.

Chapters

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [Setting Up a Mozilla Study Group](#)
3. [Running a Mozilla Study Group](#)
4. [Appendix: Event Ideas](#)
5. [Appendix: Lesson Ideas](#)

Subsections in this Chapter

Handbook to get you started



Setting Up a Mozilla Study Group

In this chapter, we'll learn how to set up a simple website and communication channels for our Study Group, and think about how to support an active and diverse community.

Made by the [Mozilla Science Lab](#)

Summary

Setting up a Mozilla Study Group involves a few key steps:

- **Set up a website.** The Mozilla Science Lab has a [template](#) you can use to create a website to list events, create a discussion board and host a chat room.
- **Write or adopt a Code of Conduct.** Mozilla Study Groups work best when everyone feels welcome. A copy of the [Mozilla Science Code of Conduct](#) comes with the template website above; adopt it as is or edit it to your liking, and enforce it to create a space where people

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4. [Appendix: Event Ideas](#)
5. [Appendix: Lesson Ideas](#)

Subsections in this Chapter

1. [Summary](#)
2. [Communication](#)

Bank of Lessons

Study Group Lessons

The Study Group lessons are a great place to find existing curriculum in open science, open code, as well as creative approaches to research review and workflows. Lessons are stored in our [lessons bank on github](#), indexed in [our handbook](#), and mirrored on our website. Check out the [issues in the lessons bank](#) for more ideas and versions of the core lessons, and our [online webcasts for remote events!](#)

Journal Club Lessons

Journal club lessons are like reading or book club templates for scientific papers, an alternate option to code curricula for Study Group meetings.

OPEN DATA

[Journal Club: Data Reuse](#)

CODING

Journal Club: Code Review

Code Review journal club is a group reading and discussion activity on the topic of examining and giving feedback on code, cross-referenced with Study Groups

OPEN DATA

[Journal Club: Reproducible Research](#)

Optional Reading :-D

New Results

Building a local community of practice in scientific programming for Life Scientists

 Sarah L.R. Stevens,  Mateusz Kuzak, Carlos Martinez,  Aurelia Moser, Petra M. Bleeker,  Marc Galland

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/265421>

This article is a preprint and has not been peer-reviewed [what does this mean?].

Abstract

[Info/History](#) [Metrics](#)

 [Preview PDF](#)

Abstract

For most experimental biologists, handling the avalanche of data generated is similar to learning how to drive on your own. Although that might be doable, it is preferable and safer to

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/early/2018/05/26/265421>



Sarah Stevens
UW-Madison Microbiology Grad Student

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Community Building - Starting A Study Group

To start with, **many thanks** to all the people who posted encouraging comments on my [first post](#). I really appreciate all the support and shared experiences.

The need for study groups

http://sarahlrstevens.info/communitybuild_combee/