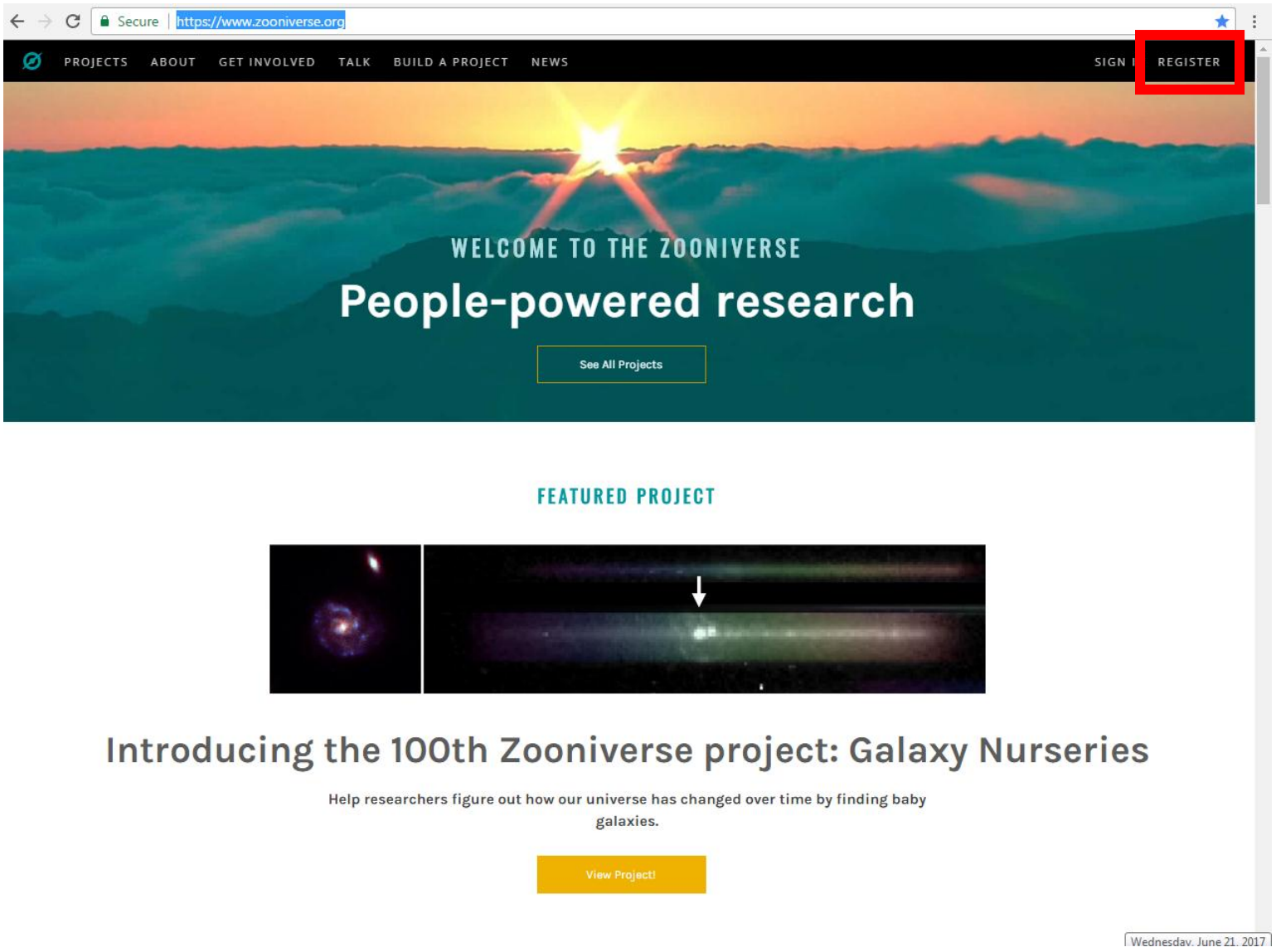
Focus on Wildlife – Cleveland Metroparks Camera Trap Image ID

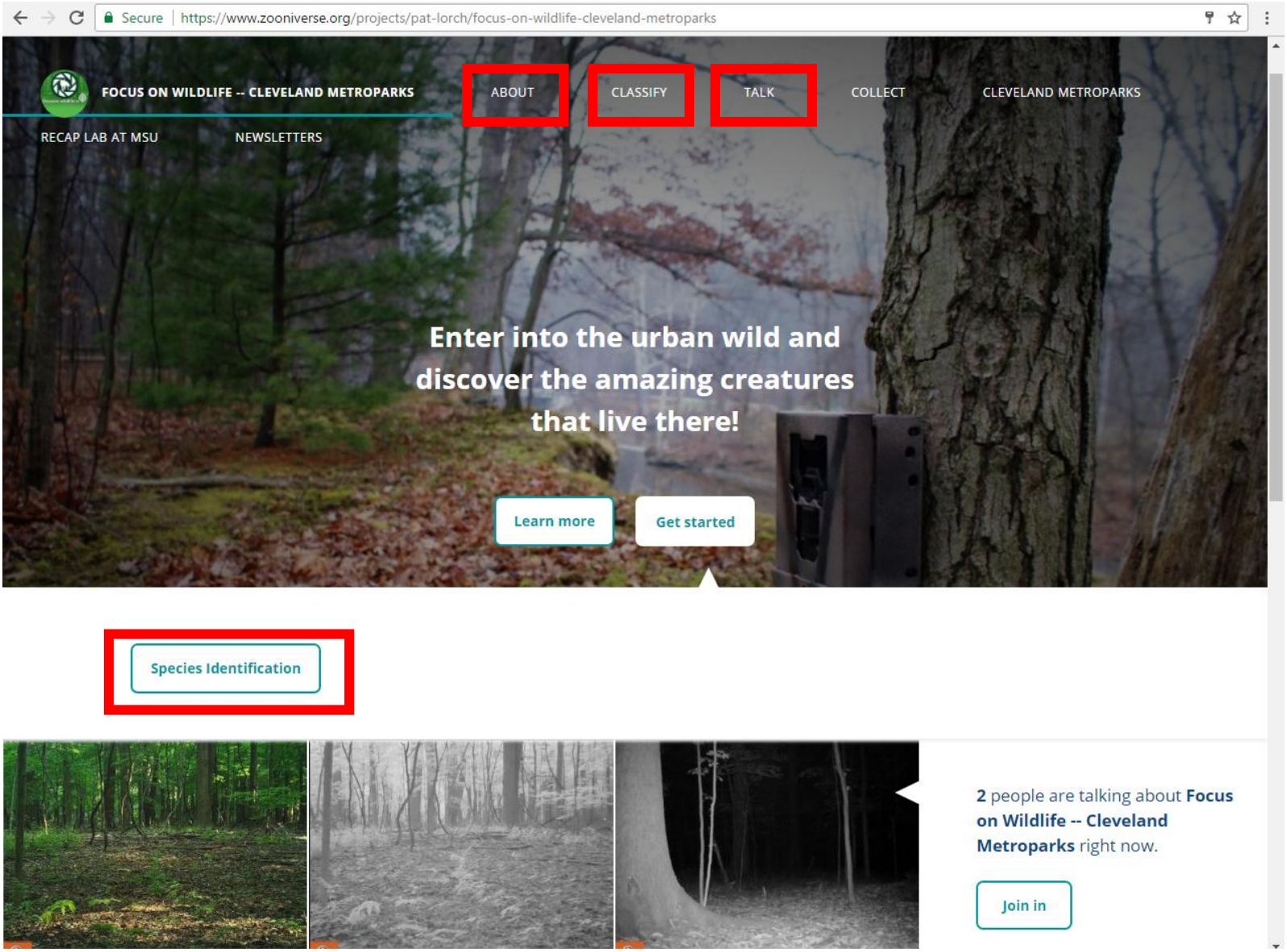
1) Go to https://www.zooniverse.org/.
2) Click “Register” in the top right corner to sign up for an account.



3) Once you have registered and signed in, you can find our project at this link: https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/pat-lorch/focus-on-wildlife-cleveland-metroparks

4) You will see many tabs. “About” will take you to project information and the FAQ. “Classify” is where you go to start classifying photos. “Talk” will take you to discussion boards where you can interact with the project team and other volunteers.

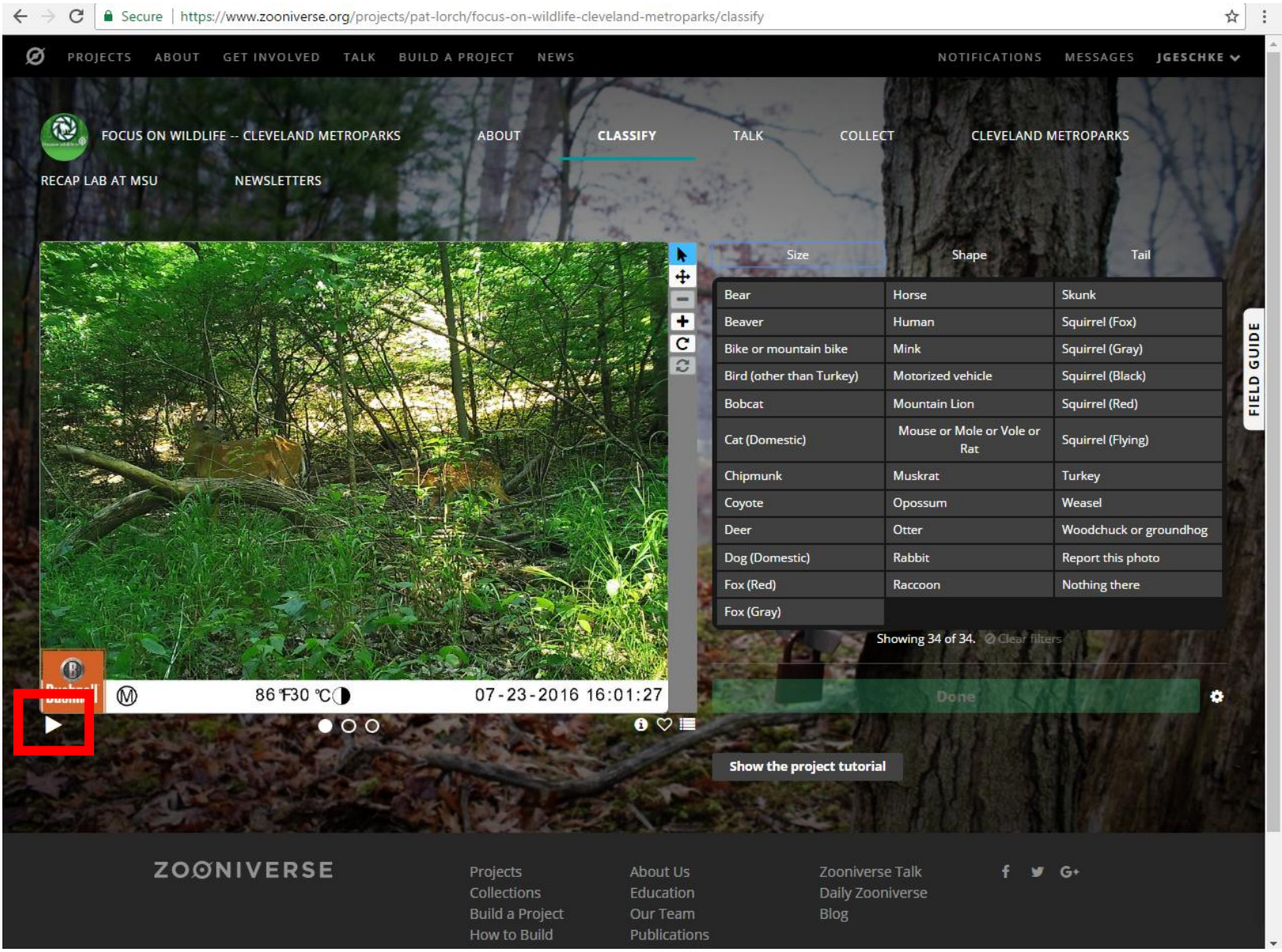
5) Click “Classify” or the “Species Identification” button to get started.

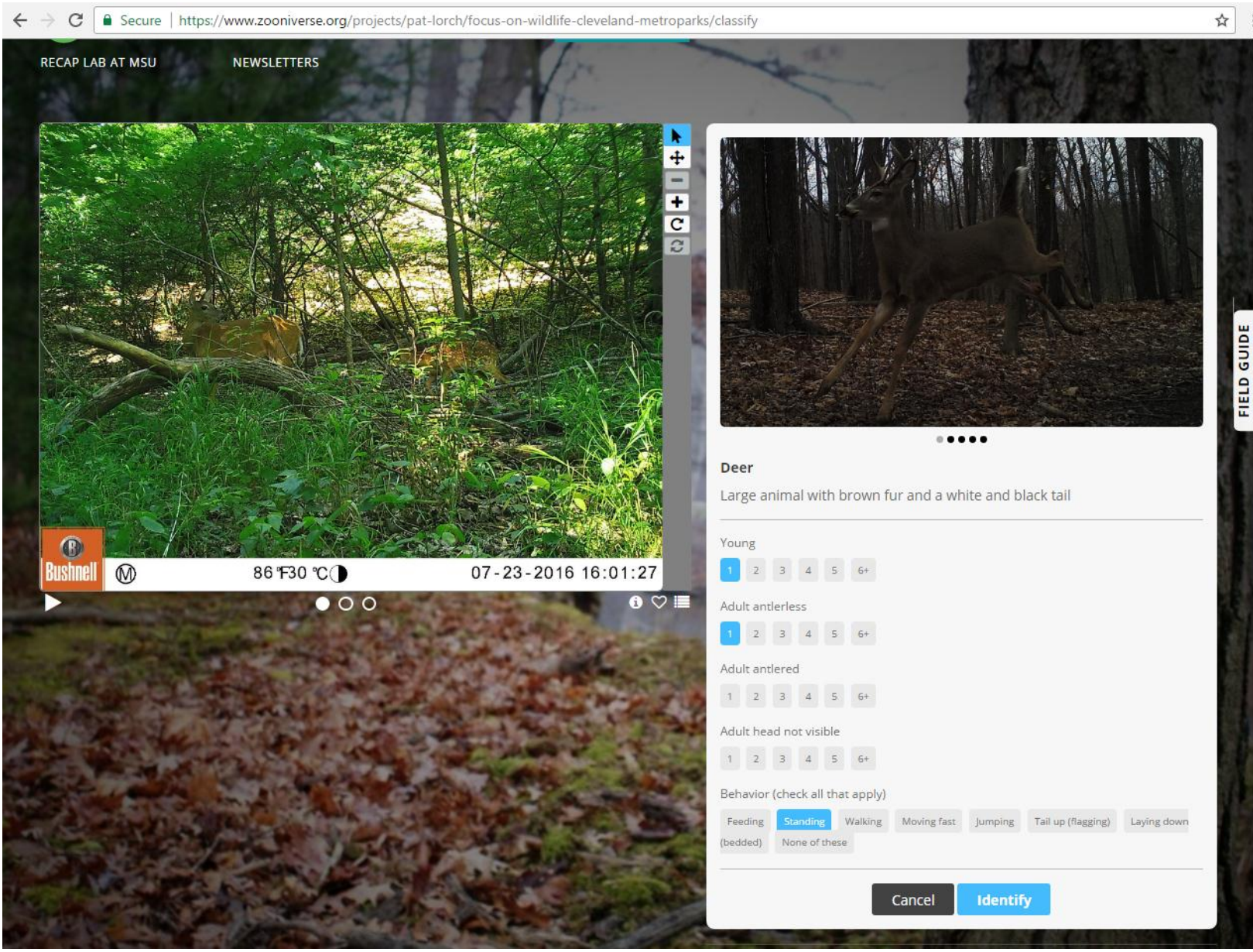


6) Go through the tutorial which will explain how to use the Zooniverse interface.

7) Start IDing photos! The triangle-shaped “play” button under the photo will play the set of 3 images and makes it easier to see if there’s an animal moving in the picture. You can also zoom in and out using the buttons on the side of the photo. Make identifications by clicking on the name of the species you see and answering any other questions like # of animals, behavior, etc. If there is an animal but you can’t identify it,

make your best guess! Click “Done” and then “Next” once you are finished to move on to the next photo set.





<u>Important Points:</u>

- I see something but don't know what it is, what do I do?
    - Zooniverse researchers have found it is better to give a guess than to answer "I don't know". We therefore do not include an "I don't know" option in the list of choices. Keep in mind that multiple people identify the same picture and then we analyze the results for consistency. If there are a wide range of opinions as to which animal is there, we will consult an expert for help. Do your best and do not worry too much if you are not 100% sure.

- Why do some pictures have no animals?
    - Our cameras are quite sensitive and sometimes they are triggered by shadows, grass, branches or sunlight rather than animals. We try to weed out these animal-less images before you see them, but many still make it through our filters. Simply identify these images as "Nothing there" and move to the next sequence.

- Talk rules:
    - Entering something in Talk is not necessary and you do NOT need to tag every single picture you have classified (that creates double the work for you!) The discussion boards are for comments, questions, or to hashtag unusual or cool images, so that other users can see and talk about them. Please do not create tags if you are not sure of the species.
    - Please do not comment on pictures of humans.

- Species ID Tips:
    - Bears, bobcats and mountain lions are seldom, if ever, observed within Cleveland Metroparks boundaries. You should be fairly certain of this identification before selecting one of these three species.
    - When in doubt about the identification of an animal in a photo, it is usually better and more accurate to go with the more likely species, in terms of its abundance within the Cleveland Metroparks area. For example, fox squirrels are more abundant locally than either gray squirrels or red squirrels. Likewise, red foxes are fairly common, whereas gray foxes have not been observed locally for a number of years.

- Newsletters:
    - You will see a Newsletters tab at the top of the page which will take you to archived versions of our newsletters. These have research updates, cool photos, species information, ID tips, and more.