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Astrobites: The Astro-ph Reader's Digest For Undergraduates

JUSTIN VASEL, University of Minnesota Duluth, CHRIS FAESI, MARIA DROUT, ELISABETH NEWTON, Harvard University, ASTROBITES TEAM — Astrobites (<http://astrobites.com>) is a daily blog aimed primarily at undergraduates interested in astrophysical research and written by a team of graduate students located at institutions around the world. Nearly every day we present a journal article recently posted to astro-ph in a brief format that is accessible to anyone with a general background in the physical sciences. In addition to summarizing new work, Astrobites provides valuable context for readers not yet familiar with the some of the background concepts and jargon present in the astrophysical literature. Special posts offer career guidance for undergraduates (e.g. applying for an NSF graduate fellowship) and describe personal experiences (e.g. attending an astronomy summer school). The readership of astrobites has grown dramatically since our founding in fall of 2010, with individuals now accessing the site from 104 countries worldwide. We will discuss the Astrobites format, recent readership statistics, and future planned initiatives.

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