

Observation of past JAN user forums featuring science-related content

Methodology

An exploratory search was conducted using search engines such as Google, Bing, and Yahoo. The search was performed manually to identify relevant sites, using various keyword combinations, including “anime y ciencia” [anime and science], “foros de anime educativos” [educational anime forums], “anime que explica ciencia” [anime explaining science], and “Comunidad científica de narrativas audiovisuales japonesas” [JAN science community], among others. Boolean operators were used to combine the keywords. The results were filtered by prioritizing content in Spanish, with no restrictions on domain extensions, as many platforms use generic domains such as .com or .org.

In addition to the textual analysis of the results, each website was individually reviewed to determine whether it functioned as an active forum, an organized community, or merely an informational page. Special attention was given to the site’s design, the structure of its sections, and the organization of science- and JAN-related content. When available, the publication dates of posts or comments were examined to assess the recency of activity. Since many platforms do not explicitly indicate their country of origin, efforts were made to infer the potential regional context by analyzing linguistic expressions, cultural references, and available user or administrator profile information.

Results

The results indicate a lack of Latin American online communities specifically structured to explain scientific concepts through JANs, highlighting an underexplored area in science communication research. While many forums are in Spanish, their exact geographical origin remains unclear. The domain extensions of the identified websites did not explicitly indicate whether these forums originated in Hispanic America, making it difficult to determine whether they represent a regional perspective or if they are part of broader Spanish-speaking online communities, excluding those from Spain and other regions.

Although there are websites with a science and JAN section, they do not discuss science through JAN and lack a centralized and systematic educational approach¹. Likewise, in another web forum in Spanish, where its extension indicates that the information has been sourced from a Japanese website but does not discuss science with JAN, but only mentions its importance². Another highlights how the JAN Dr. Stone has brought science into everyday life with a book of experiments called Dr

¹ <https://foroanime.net/portal.php>

² https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/es/cool/19/201912_manga-kagaku_es.html

Stone no Saikyō Jiyū Kenkyū which is aimed at children³. There is little or no recent activity in the forums.

³ <https://ramenparados.com/dr-stone-ya-cuenta-con-su-propio-libro-de-experimentos/>