

# DU Learning Guide

## Second Life

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*'At last, a chance to live the life of my dreams.'*

### What's it all about?

Second Life is a virtual world made up of islands. Each person has a character, called an avatar, which they can make look however they like. People communicate with each other through their avatars by typing greetings, or by talking into a microphone attached to their computer.

People can also own islands, and create buildings and environments. These can look like real places or might be completely imaginary.

Some very famous people and organisations have characters and islands. The famous magazine Nature has an island called 'Second nature', which houses a museum, a university and many different demonstrations of things related to nature and the environment. There is a NASA island that contains replicas of real rockets and even a real time video link, showing what's happening on the space station.

Anyone can take part in Second Life. You need to download some software, register and create an avatar.

If you would like to try Second Life out for yourself, please see our Guide called **Set Up Second Life**. Here, we will show you some videos of Second Life on a video sharing site called YouTube.

### Try this

- Type [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) into the address bar of your browser
- Press Enter to display the YouTube home page
- Move your mouse cursor to the Search box at the top of the page
- Type in 'Introduction to Second Life', and press Enter
- Click on the link 'Introduction to Second Life' at the top of the list of videos
- Alternatively type (exactly as written) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b72CvvMuD6Q> into the address bar of your browser. Press return or enter on the keyboard.

### Other Second Life videos

<a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6D9I36zsec">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6D9I36zsec</a>	Another introduction
<a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZAj8Cg4bLo">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZAj8Cg4bLo</a>	On educational uses of second Life