LIVE INTERACTIVE LEARNING @ YOUR DESKTOP

NSTA Learning Center Update

Presented by: Flavio Mendez

February 16, 2011
Agenda

- What is the Learning Center?
- New features
- New Resources

http://learningcenter.nsta.org
Learning Center Overview
- A community of teachers to share ideas, questions, experiences
- Over 6,000 resources
- Practical tools to teachers organize, personalize & document their growth over time
February 2011:

Over 73,000 active users with over 551,000 resources across their libraries.
The Learning Center has over 6,000 resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do-It-Yourself Learning</th>
<th>Live Online Seminars &amp; Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SciGuides [36]</td>
<td>Web Seminars [100/yr]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Objects [80]</td>
<td>Short Courses [20+/year]</td>
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<tr>
<td>SciPacks [21]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archived Seminars/Podcast [550+]</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Books &amp; Articles</th>
<th>In Person Experiences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal Articles [3800+]</td>
<td>Symposia [6-10/year]</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSTA Press Books [250+]</td>
<td>PD Institutes [6-10/year]</td>
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<tr>
<td>e-Books [130+]</td>
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<tr>
<td>e-Chapters [780+]</td>
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Welcome to Your Professional Development Web Space!

Flavio, you've already earned **4325 Activity Points**!

You've recently earned:
- **Web Seminar Activator**
  - Attend Web Seminars
- **Sapphire Commenter**
  - Post 15 more comment/queries

You're close to earning:
- **Activity Progress Bar**
  - Your Activity Matters!
  - It reduces your carbon footprint!

Be sure to **update your profile and review your points & badges!**

With these resources you can build your professional development plan, track your activities and assess your progress. You can start at "Explore Learning Opportunities" below or by creating your game plan with the PD Plan and Portfolio tool. You may also review an **archived Web Seminar** or a **multimedia overview** of the Learning Center.

**Explore Learning Opportunities**
- Advanced Search

**See all FREE Lesson Plans**
- See all FREE Resources
When did you start using the Learning Center?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>In 2008 – when it was unveiled</th>
<th>Six months to a year ago</th>
<th>Recently, within the last month</th>
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What are its best features?

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<th>Easy to navigate</th>
<th>Variety of resource types</th>
<th>Technical and advisory help</th>
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<td>The tools (Library, PD Plan, etc.)</td>
<td>Always open</td>
<td>Standards-based</td>
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Learning Center
Community
Building a Teacher-centered community

Psycho-emotional

Teachers have different roles and are recognized and rewarded for their contributions

Teacher

Content

Teachers participate in discussions using compelling content as context

Social

Teachers interact with peers and establish lasting relationships
User Profile

• Share with others about you, interests, goals, expertise
• Display your badges, points awarded for community building activities:
  ✓ Aggregate
  ✓ Disseminate
  ✓ Advocate
  ✓ Comment
Welcome: Complete this space and upload your thumbnail image.

Your profile is a professional reflection for others to learn about you as they view your contributions to this learning community. As you create, rate and share resources and collections of resources you will earn points and badges that will travel with you and reflect your contributions to the community. You are not an island unto yourself, but connected to a larger group of like-minded colleagues at various levels of experience. Get connected and engaged by contributing your ideas to the discussion forums, uploading your best resources into a public collection for others to try, and if you have a question, be sure to tap the live online advisors.

So let's get started! Upload an image of yourself, let us know who you are, and become part of this dynamic community and the resources we can share amongst each other!

Visit the activities page to learn how you can earn points and badges. The NSTA Learning center awards badges based on activities performed within the website. Pursuing badges is a great way to explore all the resources and professional development tools the Learning Center has to offer.
Community Profile

Any information shared in this Community Profile section is publicly available to all registered users of the Learning Center.

School / Work Affiliation

About Me

Location

IM Screen Name

Twitter

Facebook

Skype Name
Complete your community profile
Who is Online

- Find other Learning Center users
- Read their profiles, see their badges, points
- Read their most recent discussion forums posts and respond
Learning Center
Activity Points
Learning Center Activity Points

• Earn points/badges while completing tasks in the LC
• Badges displayed in User Profile and Discussion Forums
• Auto Donations made on your behalf

Exploring strategies that help build online communities of practice
Below is a list of the different types of activities you can do within the Learning Center to earn points and recognition for your efforts as you review, aggregate, rate, share, and discuss your personal and e-PD resources and opportunities from NSTA.

**Activity Points**

**Add an NSTA resource to your Learning Center Library**

10 Activity Points (AP)

- **NSTA Resource Activator** - Add 5 NSTA resources to your library
- **NSTA Resource Optimizer** - Add 10 NSTA resources to your library
- **NSTA Resource Accelerator** - Add 20 NSTA resources to your library

**Aggregator: Add a personal resource to your LC library**

10 Activity Points (AP)

- **Onyx Aggregator** - Add 5 personal resources to your library
- **Sapphire Aggregator** - Add 30 personal resources to your library

**How to add a resource to your library**
How many Activity Points do you have?

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1-30</th>
<th>31-100</th>
<th>101-300</th>
<th>301+</th>
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Discussion Forums

- Linked to User Profile
- Display recognition badges
- Integrate all NSTA content
- Attach user files (Word, images, URLs, Excel)
Discussion Forums (asynchronous)

- Five public forums
- About content, classroom practice, resources, etc.
Number of posts by subject

- General: 1052 posts
- Earth & Space: 425 posts
- Life: 540 posts
- Physical: 310 posts

Total: 2327 posts
Have you posted a comment on the Discussion Forums?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Plan to in the next week.</th>
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Learning Center
Online Advisors
Learning Center
Online Advisors

- Educators who moderate discussion, assist users
- 7 days/week; ~60 hours/week

Wendy Ruchti
Wendy Ruchti has been part of the Educational Foundations Department at Idaho State University’s College of Education since 2008. She received a PhD in Education from the University of Idaho in 2005 with an emphasis in curriculum and instruction in STEM education. At ISU, she has taught several educational foundations courses. Her research interests include elementary science education and creating collaborative online learning environments. Before coming to ISU, she taught middle school science and math.

Lara Smetana
Lara Smetana is an assistant professor of science education at Southern Connecticut State University. She brings classroom experience as an 8th grade physical science teacher and has worked with a variety of informal education programs across the country. Lara teaches courses in elementary science methods and educational technology and mentors student teachers. Her research interests include pre- and in-service teacher education and the use of educational technology in science teaching and learning.

Kathy Sparrow
Dr. Kathy Sparrow is currently an adjunct professor at Florida International University (FIU), teaching Elementary Science Methods. She previously worked as a middle and high school science teacher as well as the Science Supervisor for Akron Public Schools. She was a Regional Director for SECO, served on the NSTA Board of Directors and was president of the National Science Education Leadership Association (NSEL). Kathy was also awarded the Outstanding National Science Supervisor Award in 1999.
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- Attend Web Seminars

You're close to earning:
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- Post 15 more comments/questions

Activity Progress Bar
Your Activity Matters!
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Explore Learning Opportunities
- Advanced Search

See all FREE Lesson Plans
See all FREE Resources

NEW LIVE SUPPORT
Online Advisors now available!

Featured PD Resource
Science Objects
Force and Motion: Position and Motion

LIVE SUPPORT ONLINE
Click here →
Reviewing resources and making collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of reviews made by Online Advisors</th>
<th>Number of collections created by Online Advisors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>556</td>
<td>58</td>
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Learning Center

e-PD Resources
3-5 Science Objects

Unlimited Content
Mentor Email Support

Assessment and Certification Opportunity

Pedagogical Implications Component
2-hour free, self-paced, learning experience
Interactive simulations
Questions to promote interaction and learning
Based on science education standards
Eighty (80) currently available
What’s new?

Cell Division and Differentiation:
• Continuity of Life
• Variation and Specialization of Cells
• Multicellular Organization

Explaining Matter with Elements, Atoms, and Molecules:
• Characteristics of Elements
• Classifying the Elements
• Evidence for Atoms and Molecules
KEY IDEAS: Based on NSES and AAAS Benchmarks

- Cells carry on the many functions needed to sustain life, including cell growth and development.
- Complex interactions among the different kinds of molecules in the cell cause distinct cycles of activities, including cell growth and division.
- Cells in multicellular organisms repeatedly divide to make more cells for growth and repair.
Interactive Simulation

Designed to meet at least
• one Key Idea and
• one Evidence of Understanding
Evidences of Understanding (EOUs)

For which EOU was the Mitosis Matchup simulation designed?

CDD 1.1 Describe the cellular events related to genetic material that must occur for cell division leading to growth or repair in multicellular organisms.

CDD 1.2 Interpret the results of experimental variables, both internal and external to the cell, affecting cellular growth and division displayed within an experiment’s graphs or data charts.
Elements of the Continuity of Life Science Object

- videos
- slide shows
- hands-on activities
- preconceptions boxes
- images
- simulations
- assessment

NSTA WEB SEMINARS
Add Science Objects to your “Library”
See All Science Objects

or

Display Science Objects by Subject Area
Add a Science Object to Library
Advanced Search
Add other free resources to your “Library”
How many Activity Points do you have now?

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
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My Library

- Store and annotate NSTA resources
- Upload your own resources
- Create personalized collections
- Share your collections with individuals, group, or make public
2010 National Education Technology Plan

Through online learning systems, teachers may enhance their learning through blending the best of onsite PD with online PD that provides immediacy, convenience, self-direction, and collaboration with other colleagues and experts via professional learning communities.

For teachers to effectively facilitate using interactive resources, learning systems, and connectedness to online communities, teachers need to experience it firsthand as part of their own learning and professional development.

- A community of teachers to share ideas, questions, experiences
- Over 6,000 resources
- Practical tools to teachers organize, personalize & document their growth over time
Collaborators
Don’t forget the web seminar evaluation and to choose your FREE SciPack

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>Earth &amp; Space 8 Topics</th>
<th>Physical 7 Topics</th>
<th>Life 6 Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Earth, Sun &amp; Moon</td>
<td>Force &amp; Motion</td>
<td>Cell Structure &amp; Function</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gravity &amp; Orbits</td>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Coral Reef Ecosystems</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Solar System</td>
<td>Nature of Light</td>
<td>Science of Food Safety</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Universe</td>
<td>Chemical Reactions</td>
<td>Resources &amp; Human Impact</td>
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<td>Weather &amp; Climate</td>
<td>Electric and Magnetic Forces</td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
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<td>Rock Cycle</td>
<td>Atomic Structure</td>
<td>Cell Division and Differentiation</td>
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<td>Plate Tectonics</td>
<td>Explaining Matter with Elements, Atoms, and Molecules</td>
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<td>Earth’s Changing Surface</td>
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Flavio Mendez
Senior Director
NSTA Learning Center

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Email: fmendez@nsta.org

Questions?
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