Best Practices for Educational Resources
Submitted for the DLESE Reviewed Collection

Kim Kastens & the DLESE Collections Committee

INTRODUCTION

The DLESE Collections Subcommittee has defined a set of seven selection criteria by which resources will be judged for inclusion in DLESE's Reviewed Collections:

1. PEDAGOGICAL EFFECTIVENESS
2. EASE OF USE FOR TEACHERS AND LEARNERS
3. WELL-DOCUMENTED
4. SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY
5. INSPIRATIONAL/MOTIVATIONAL FOR LEARNERS
6. AGES OF THE TEACHERS AND LEARNERS
7. ROBUSTNESS AS A DIGITAL RESOURCE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines or best practices with respect to these seven selection criteria, for the guidance of both resource creators and reviewers.

3. WELL-DOCUMENTED

The “Well-documented” criterion covers both information in the DLESE metadata catalog and information that is available within the resource to support learning.

1d. Student learning achieved by use of this resource
2a. Best practice is that the resource should work on current versions of major Web browsers, Outlook, Windows and Mac OS. Any exceptions should be noted in the documentation.
2b. Resources should not be admitted to the DLESE Reviewed Collection if they have conspicuous non-conformities.
3a. Metadata in the DLESE catalog:
3b. All of the DLESE “Required” metadata fields must be complete in the DLESE metadata catalog.
3c. Text and graphic elements of the resource should be printable.
4a. DLESE best practice is that the review for scientific accuracy should be made by a textbook specialist in this field.
5a. The instructional time required for use of the resource.
5b. Any text, images, or other content used by this resource was created using a very basic computer.
6a. DLESE best practice is that the review for inspiration/motivation should include feedback from educators who have observed learners using the resource.
6b. Reviewed Collection resources should inspire or motivate students to ask questions, seek out further information, and be more engaged in the learning process.
7b. Robustness as a digital resource:

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