Welcome Packet

v.2
June 17, 2010

Defined STEM
Bringing Relevance to the Classroom

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Defined STEM
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Welcome Letter

Who we are

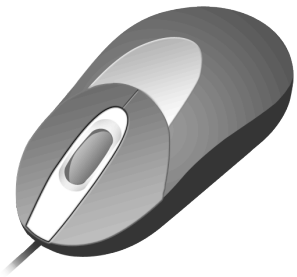
Defined STEM is Defined Learning's solution for providing real world relevance to students. Defined STEM is a web-based application designed to promote effective and relevant connections between STEM classroom content and STEM career pathways. Defined STEM provides teachers a resource where they can access highly effective media content and related support materials. These resources and materials allow teachers to connect STEM career awareness to existing lessons and standards-based curriculum.

What we do

Defined STEM offers over 1,000 video-based learning connections to stimulate student interest in STEM careers. Each connection has instant access to subject recommendations, lesson plans, related websites, teacher guides, state standards and a powerful cross-curricular search function. The students will gain perspective on how lessons learned today will help them not only in school but with their career choices as well. The teacher will have the content presented to them in a manner that will help inspire the class. The content will reside in a self-contained environment that will help the teacher, without impacting his or her workload or taking the teacher off task.

How we do it

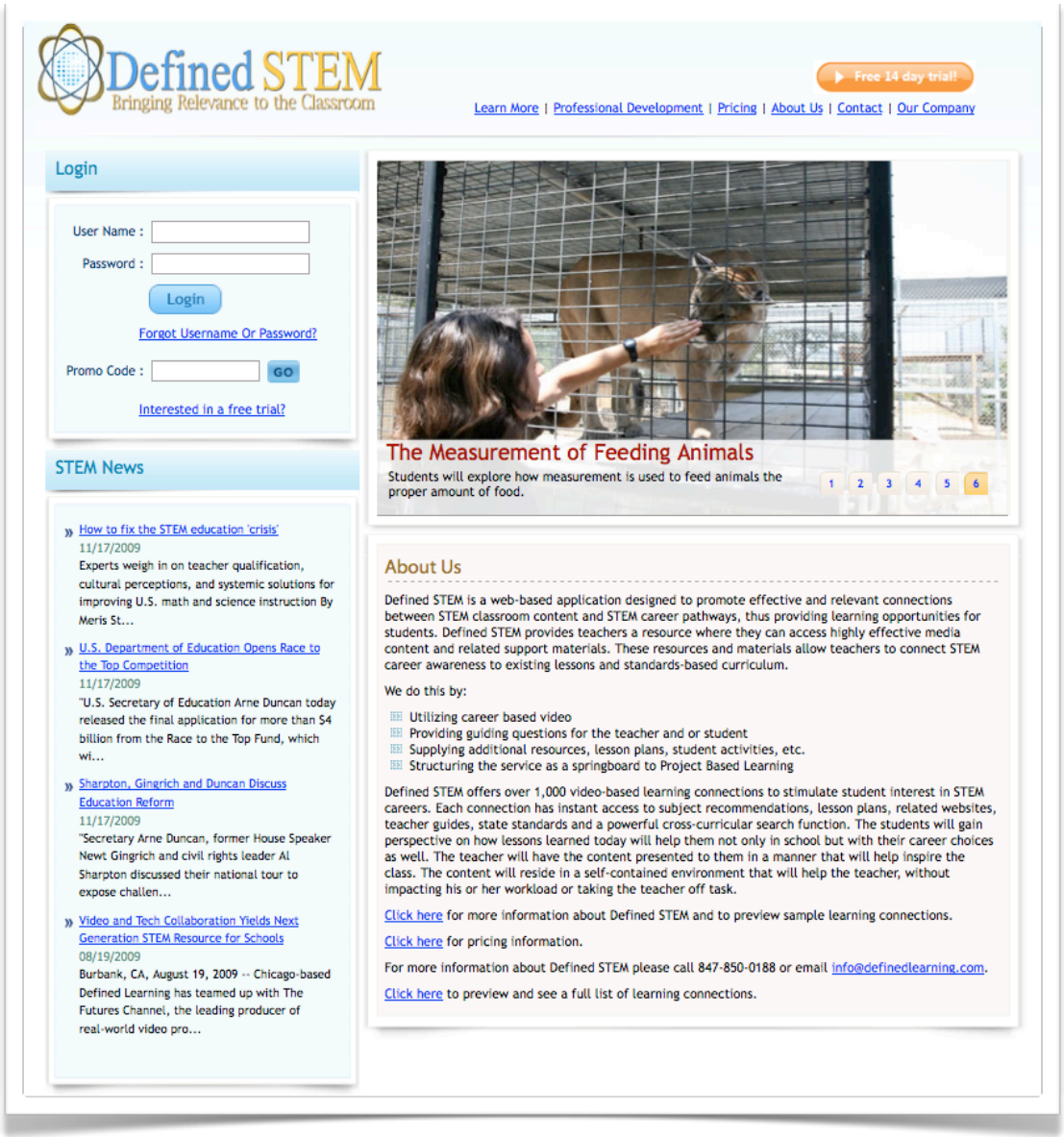
- Utilize career based video
- Provide guiding questions for the teacher and or student
- Supply additional resources, lesson plans, student activities, etc.
- Structure the service as a springboard to "Project Based Learning"



Defined STEM
Bringing Relevance to the Classroom

User Guide

Accessing the Application

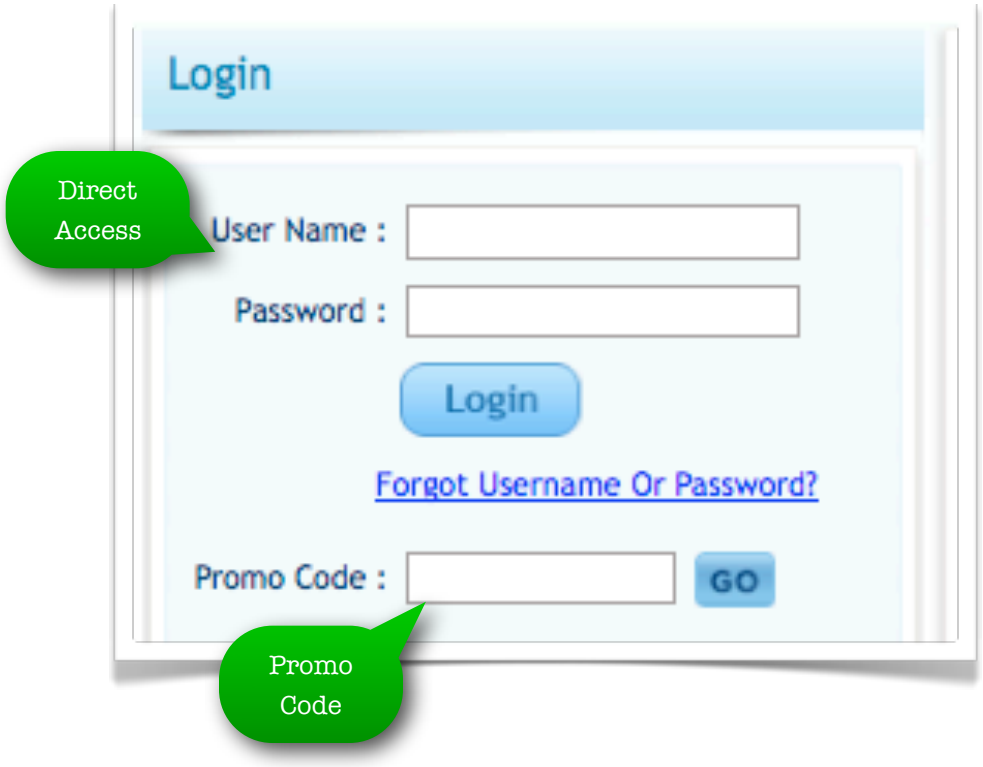


Direct Access

Simply enter your username and password to the fields in the login fields, then clicking “login” you will be access Defined STEM.

Promo Code Access

A promo code allows you to quickly set up a unique account. If you have been provided a “Promo Code” enter the code to the “Promo Code” in the login pane and click “Go.” Next a form will “pop-up” in your browser. After you have entered your information and agreed to the terms of service you are ready to “create user” and begin using Defined STEM.

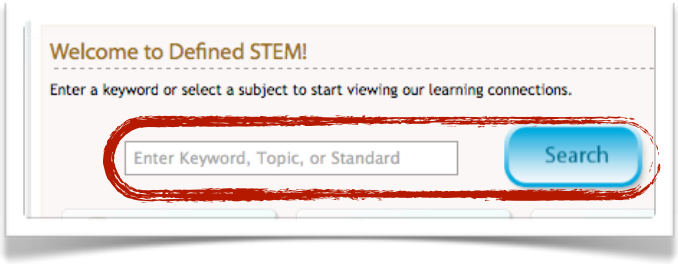


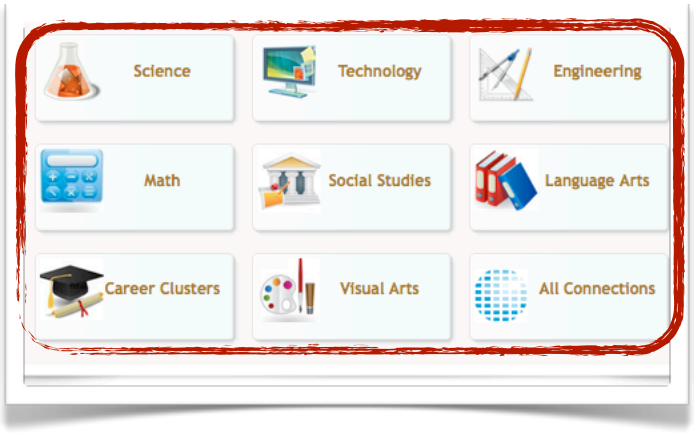
Navigation

Home
Welcome Patrick (logout) | My Profile | Help
Defined STEM
Watch the Defined STEM tutorial video!
Welcome to Defined STEM!
Enter a keyword or select a subject to start viewing our learning connections.
Enter Keyword, Topic, or Standard
Search
Science
Technology
Engineering
Math
Social Studies
Language Arts
Career Clusters
Visual Arts
All Connections
Performance Tasks
Project Director
Astronaut Rover Design
Landscape Architect
The Mathematics Involved with the Design Process
Entrepreneur
Researching and Developing a Plan to Open a Restaurant
Wildlife Research
Re-introducing Endangered Animals
Product Designer
The Mathematics Involved with Design
Career Explorer
Over 100 career connections preparing students to learn about careers and career paths for the 21st century.
Featured Connections
The Science of Lightweight Materials...
Aquariums and Life Science...
The Science of Propulsion in Space...
The Science of Guitar Making...
Human interaction with Science at th...

Search

You can perform a standard keyword search by entering your keyword into the search box



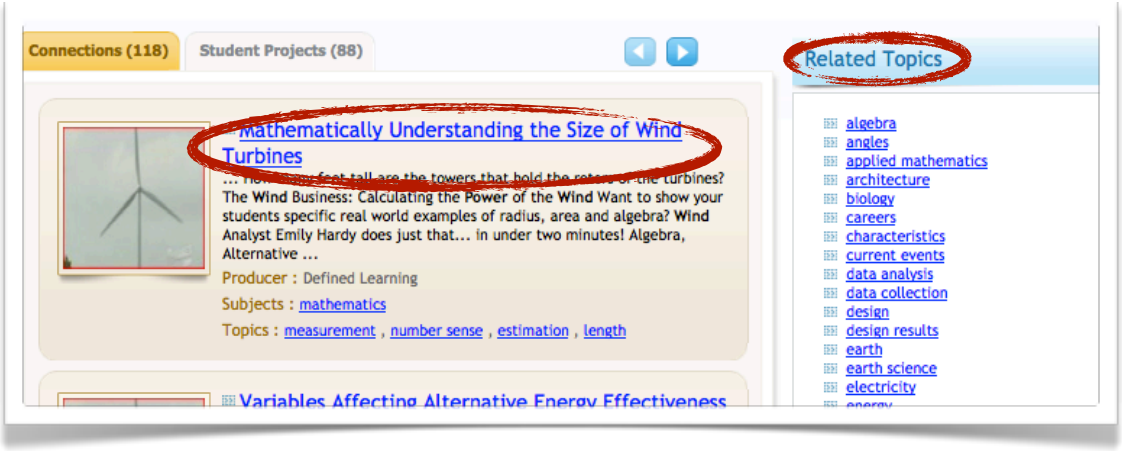


Subject Browse

To browse by subject areas, select on the corresponding box and drill down by topic area

Search Results Page

Once you have completed your search or browse you will be directed to the search results page. Here you can choose the connection that best suits your criteria by clicking on its link, or you can drill down even further by selecting one the related topics.

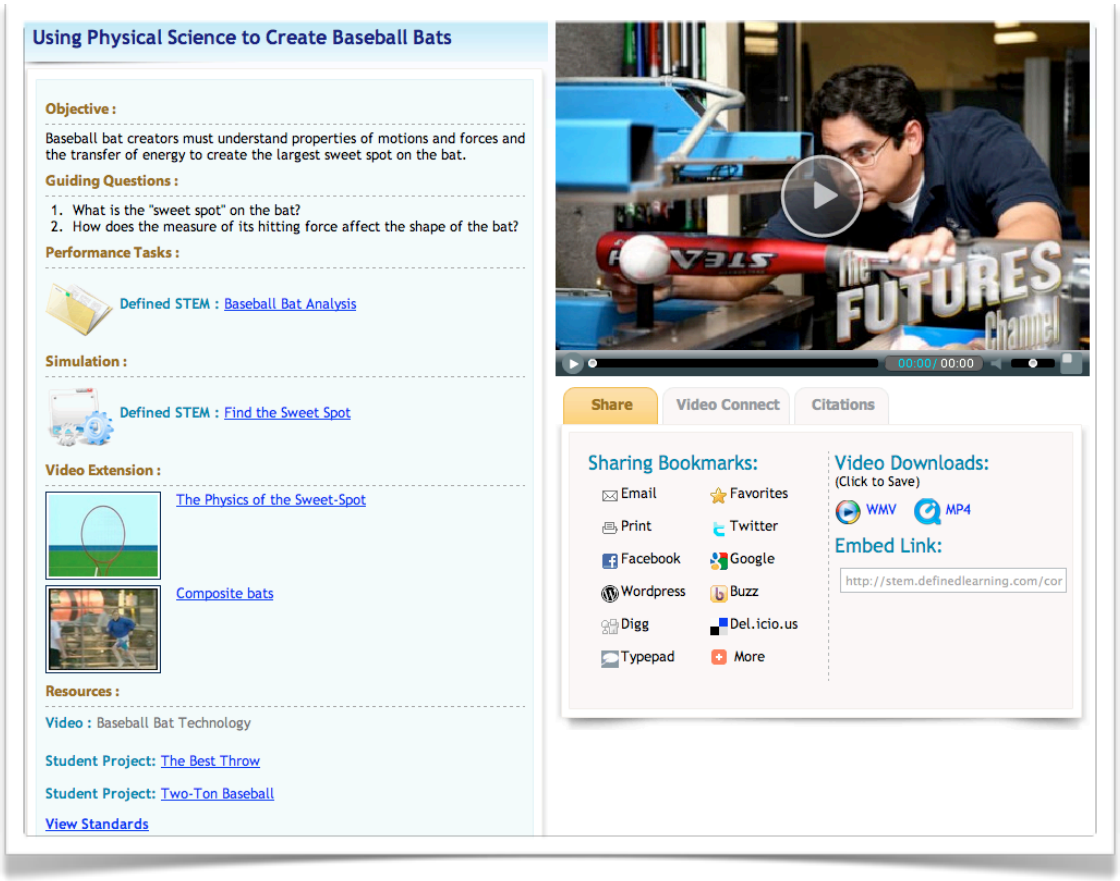


Content

Connections

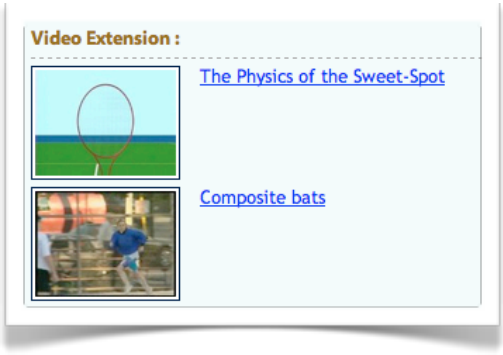
There are over 1,000 connections in Defined STEM. A Connection is a self contained unit which helps the teacher demonstrate relevance to their students through real world applications. Connections consist of:

- Careers based video that show individuals in their daily routine and demonstrates the importance of math and science
- Objectives and guiding questions for the teachers to utilize
- "Performance Tasks" that create a project based environment for the classroom where students are challenged to solve a situation using a multi-disciplinary approach.



Career Based Videos

The career based videos demonstrate to students how science and math relate to their future careers.

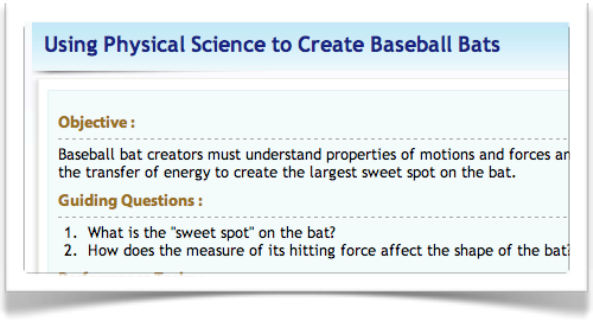


Video Extension

For each career based video, Defined STEM provides a curriculum clip to reinforce the math and science used by the professionals.

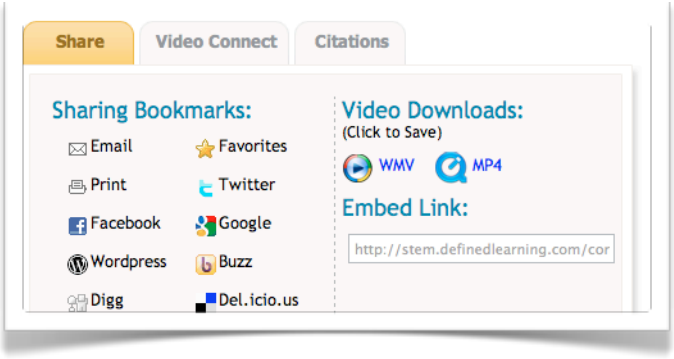
Objective & Guiding Questions

The objective and guiding connections allow teachers to easily integrate a connection into their curriculum



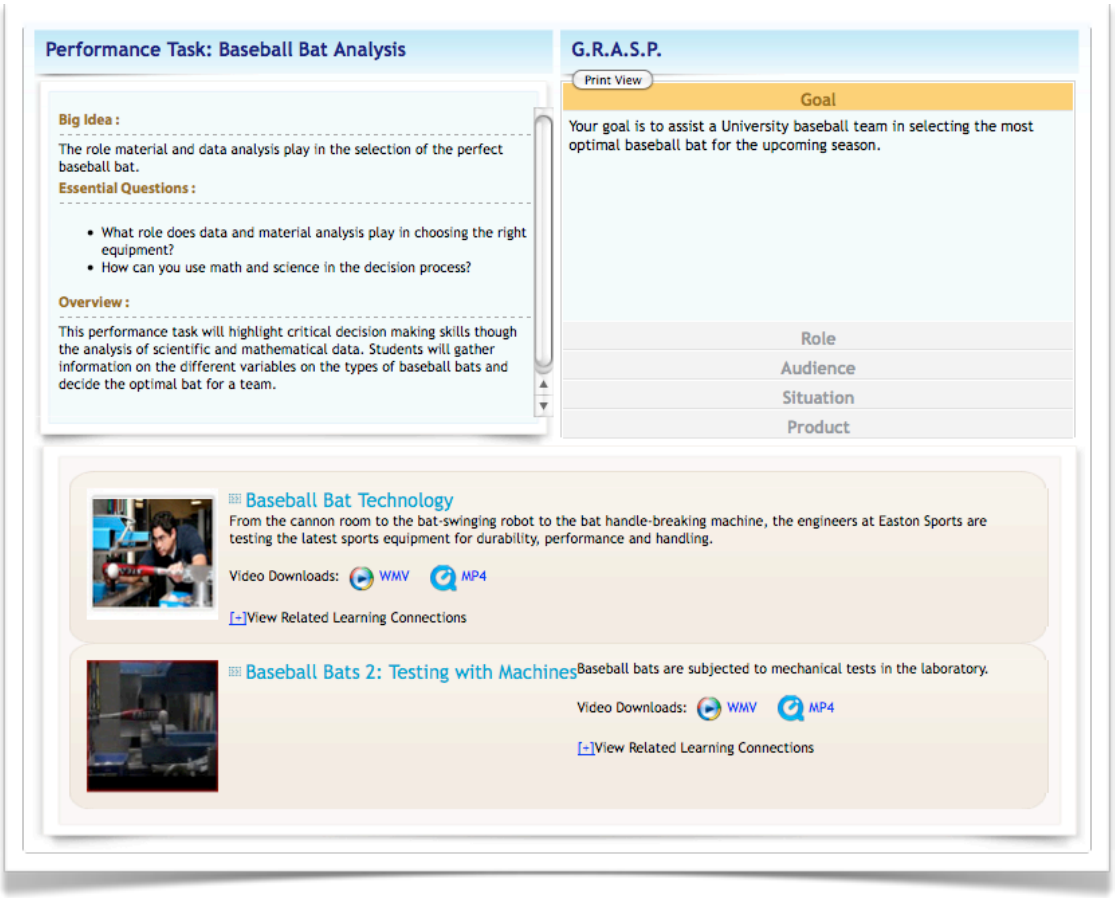
Connection Manager

The connection manager enables the sharing of content using Web2.0 tools. Download or embed the content into your LMS or embed into your office suite.



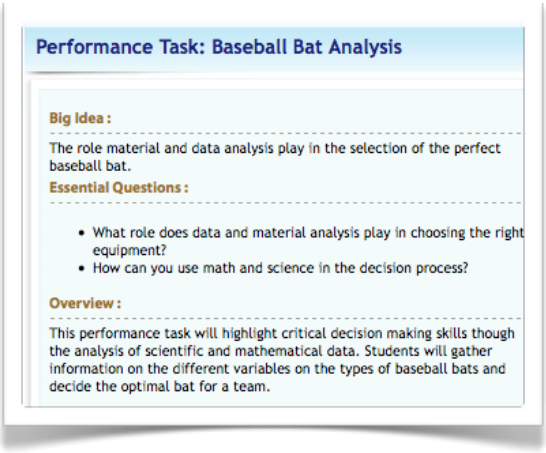
Performance Tasks

Our goal with “Performance Tasks” is to help the students see the relevance and the cross curricular nature and applications in the science and math areas. The performance task also creates a project based environment to the classroom where the students are collaborating and presenting as a team.



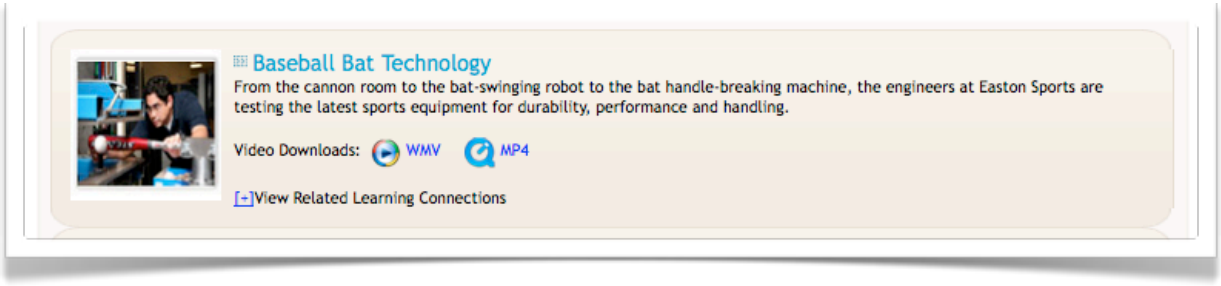
Key Concepts

You can perform a standard search by entering your keyword into the search box.



Related Connections

To browse by subject areas, select on the corresponding box and drill down by topic area.



GRASP Concept

The acronym GRASP stands for:

- **G**oal
- **R**ole
- **A**udience
- **S**ituation
- **P**roduct

These elements correspond to the specific elements that are to be addressed in the performance task by the student. (cont)

Goal: the goal of the performance task

Example: The goal is to assist potential small businesses in conducting a market analysis.

Role: the role of the students as they carry out the performance task

Example: You are a consultant with an economic development corporation that has been formed by a small city in Texas.

Audience: the target audience to which the finished product/ performance will be presented

Example: The target audience is composed of individuals who are/might be interested in starting a small business in your community.

Situation: the context

Example: Your community is not big enough to be attractive to large national business chains or franchises; however, the economic development corporation that employs you believes that small businesses could be successful in your community. The corporation also believes that small business start-ups could be encouraged by assisting prospects in conducting a market analysis in the community.

Product: the result of the performance task or activity

Example: You are responsible for designing, producing, and presenting, in an electronic format, a training session that identifies economic data sources available in the community and demonstrates how to conduct a market analysis of the community.

* "Understanding by Design" *SSCED Tool Kit, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment* pg.10, http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/ssc/.

Minimum Requirements*

Operating System

- Windows
  - Windows XP (Service Pack 2 or later)
  - Windows Vista
  - Windows 7
- Macintosh
  - OS 10.3.9 or later**

Hardware

- Windows
  - 800MHz or faster Intel or AMD processor
  - At least 512MB of RAM
- Apple
  - At least 512MB of RAM
  - 867MHz+ PowerPC G4 or later PPC processor
  - 1.67GHz+ Intel-based Macintosh

Content

- Audio capabilities with either internal or external speaker configuration
- Monitor resolution of 1024x768 or higher
- Windows Media Player 9.1 or later
- Flash Player 9.1 or later
- Quicktime 7.1.3 or later
- Adobe Reader

Browsers

- Google Chrome 2.0+***
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 7.0+***
- Mozilla Firefox 2.0+
- Safari 3.0+

Additional

- Microsoft Word
- Apple Pages

*As with all browser/online based applications it is recommended to have the latest players and hardware, but we know that this is often always possible; however based on manufacturer/developer documentation and testing the above requirements support

**required for mp4 support

***not supported in Apple Macintosh environments

Contact Information

Company Info

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