

How to Align Resources to Benchmarks

NSDL collection contributors can align resources to a AAAS benchmark and those resources will display in the 'Top Picks' tab within the [Science Literacy Maps](#).

There are two primary methods to enable resources to display within the *Top Picks* tab: using the Dublin Core metadata record's conformsTo field or by stating the alignment within the resource content. Within the conformsTo field, a resource is considered a match if the search service finds the corresponding Strand Map Service ID (SMS-BMK-0223). A resource is also considered a match if the search service finds the exact sentences from the benchmark text in any of the resource's metadata fields or within the resource's HTML content after being crawled by NSDL. The NSDL Science Literacy Maps is not able to process ASN IDs at this time.

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Using the conformsTo field

To align a resource using the conformsTo field, you need to include the corresponding Strand Map Service ID (SMS-BMK-0223) for the resource. After your records are harvested and indexed by NSDL, which can take a few weeks, they will be viewable from the *Top Picks* tab of the benchmark's information bubble in the Science Literacy Maps. If you are managing your collection using the [NSDL Collection System \(NCS\)](#), they will be available within a few days.

Using the benchmark text

To align a resource using the benchmark text, you need to either include the full sentences from the benchmark text within any of the resource's metadata fields (dct:conformsTo, dc:description, etc) or display it on the resource's HTML page so NSDL can crawl and index the page content. If the benchmark contains multiple sentences, only one of those sentences is required to be present to be a match but the **exact** wording is required.

To get the Strand Map Service ID

1. Go to <http://strandmaps.nsdl.org> and navigate to the map in which the target benchmark resides.
2. Click on the target benchmark to open the information bubble.
3. Highlight the Strand Map Service ID and copy and paste it into the Dublin Core metadata record's conformsTo field for the resource. The Strand Map Service ID is listed at the end of the full text of the benchmark in parentheses (begins with SMS-).

Walkthrough Example

Scenario: You want to align a resource to the AAAS benchmark statement *All motion is relative to whatever frame of reference is chosen, for there is no motionless frame from which to judge all motion. 4F/H2*. This benchmark resides within the *Waves* map of *The Physical Setting* chapter.

- After navigating to <http://strandmaps.nsdl.org>, click on [The Physical Setting](#) in the list of topics.
- After the page refreshes, click on [Waves](#) in the list of maps.
- After the map loads, click on the [benchmark](#) with the text *All motion is relative to whatever frame of reference is chosen, for there is no motionless frame from which to judge all motion.*

Using the Strand Maps ID

- In the opened information bubble, highlight SMS-BMK-0223, which is located at the end of the benchmark text in parentheses.
- Copy and paste "SMS-BMK-0223 into the Dublin Core metadata record's conformsTo field.

```
<dct:conformsTo>SMS-BMK-0759</dct:conformsTo>
```

Using the Benchmark Text

- Just add the full text of the benchmark, "*All motion is relative to whatever frame of reference is chosen, for there is no motionless frame from which to judge all motion.*," somewhere within your resource's HTML page or paste that sentence into the dct:conformsTo field.

```
<dct:conformsTo>All motion is relative to whatever frame of reference is chosen, for there is no motionless frame from which to judge all motion.</dct:conformsTo>
```

If you are working in the [NSDL Collection System \(NCS\)](#), include the alignment into the conformsTo field in the editor (or the equivalent if you are working in a framework other than Dublin Core), and save the record.

If your collection is being harvested by NSDL, place the records in your OAI data provider to be harvested at the next scheduled interval. After harvesting, allow a few days when they will show up in the *Top Picks* tab for the benchmark.

If your collection is being managed in the NCS, allow a few days after editing for the records to show up in the *Top Picks* tab for the benchmark.