

Contributing a Collection

Become part of the nation's premiere online library for free science and mathematics education resources

The National Science Digital Library is always looking to expand its collection of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning material. Most of the library's resources are contributed by individuals who have submitted their materials as a collection and passed the accessioning criteria. Contributors of collections are often NSF grant awardees, STEM educators and learners, nonprofit educational organizations, and many other users and community members. Their collections are assemblages of related digital resources---usually brought together around a topic or theme, type of resource, audience, or institution. Each resource in the collection has its own URL, since this is how the library is indexed and organized.

We are especially looking to cultivate materials that can be easily adapted to the classroom, such as activities, lesson plans, online educational games, etc., as well as material that has been aligned to national education standards.

There are many benefits of contributing materials to the National Science Digital Library

- **Exposure:** marketing and outreach activities promote access to resources and collections
- **Discovery:** search and browse mechanisms enable users to locate appropriate collections and resources
- **Service:** sharing and reuse of resources within the science and math education community
- **Support:** access to technical assistance and tools for collection development and management
- **Recognition:** resources and collections are clearly attributed to their providers

NSDL collections must be of the highest quality and pertain to the library's scope

Do your resources support teaching and learning (not research) in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or in educational research? Are they scientifically sound, technologically reliable, and easy to use? These documents can give you additional guidance to find out if your collection will be accepted:

Collection Policy*: Information on how collections, resources, and metadata are accepted.

Collection Development Blueprint*: The current needs, priorities, and strategies of the library. Defines gaps and needs in the overall collection.

Resource Quality Checklist*: A checklist for collection builders to help guide their selection of educational resources.

** Documents are available from the [Policies](#) page.*

Before being added to the library, all collections must pass review by NSDL management

The collection must fall within the scope of the NSDL's Collection Policy, preferably filling a need espoused by the Collection Development Blueprint. Please see the above documents for more information.

Ready for more details?

See the [Collection Development How-To](#) for more information.