

Smithsonian Learning Lab

Get inspired. Be inspiring.

Smithsonian Learning Lab offers free digital access to millions of artworks, artifacts, specimens, and recordings plus thousands of standards-aligned teaching materials. Using the *Learning Lab's* authentic resources and innovative tools, educators and learners of all ages can make discoveries across disciplines, create personalized collections, and share their ideas with others around the world.



Features and benefits

- Excites curiosity and inspires creativity with its visual, intuitive interface
- Helps teachers design instructional materials or use and adapt model collections
- Supports technology integration with open education resources
- Enhances blended learning, project-based learning, and other progressive practices
- Uses research and evaluation to support educational effectiveness
- Expands as the Smithsonian digitizes more resources and users publish their collections



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learninglab.si.edu

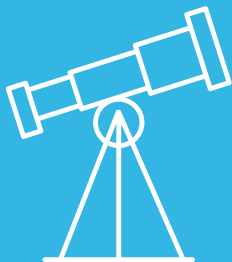
A comprehensive digital destination that includes

- Instructional materials in curriculum areas from art to zoology, some created by the Smithsonian, others by educators who use the *Lab*
- Millions of artworks and photographs, audio and video recordings, articles and blog posts, and webpages
- Interactive tools for annotating collections with “hotspots,” quizzes, and discussion prompts
- Guides and tips for integrating museum assets into the K-12 classroom

With the *Smithsonian Learning Lab*, teachers can access high-quality resources—whether they are individual artifacts, videos, or lesson plans created by Smithsonian educators—and use the interactive tools on the site to create their own collections. For me, what’s most inspiring is the ability to see those teacher-created collections and adapt them so that they fit my own students’ needs and interests.

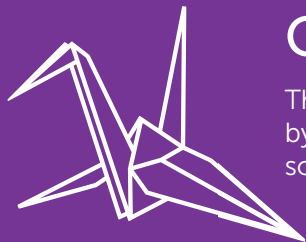
– Kate Harris, social studies educator, Pgh, PA

How it works



Discover

From the Discovery space shuttle to dinosaur fossils, the *Learning Lab* enables teachers and students to explore the compelling, rich collections of the Smithsonian anywhere, anytime. With an easy-to-use interface, they can easily find inspiring resources from more than a million of the Smithsonian’s digital assets, including audio, video, images, records, documents, lesson plans, activities, online exhibitions, and more.



Create

The *Learning Lab* empowers educators and learners to create personalized collections by using a variety of the resources available or materials they upload from outside sources. Users can annotate resources; add notes, descriptions and tags; and build assignments and quizzes to customize learning experiences to fit their needs and interests.



Share

Educators can share resources, collections, assignments and quizzes with students as well as colleagues. Students are empowered to share their creations with their teachers, peers and experts around the globe as they wish. The *Learning Lab* fosters a collaborative and safe environment in which education professionals and learners at all levels can build on and bring to light new knowledge, ideas, and insight.



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Start your collection today!
learninglab.si.edu