

Science Department Moodle FAQs

Science teachers develop individualized Moodle sites to support the activities/content presented during class. Each Moodle site is customized to the needs of the specific classroom teacher who created it. This FAQ was developed to help parents find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Moodle site used by their child's science teacher.

Question	Alpert	Brown	Ruiz
Where do I login?	Go to www.danamiddle.com – select Moodle from the quick links menu in the upper left corner of the screen. You can also visit the Library website and select Moodle from the main page. Click Login and enter your username and password.		
What is my child's username and password?	The Moodle username and password is the same as the one students use to login into my.sandi.net (used for student document storage) or the new student "netbooks" found in science and all 6 th grade ela/math classrooms. Some 5 th grade ela/math classrooms have netbooks as well. Your science teacher can provide assistance with passwords if necessary.		
How is Moodle used in the classroom?	Approximately 30% of class time is spent using computers. Moodle contains links to online class discussions and supplementary science activities, information and animations.	We use moodle in the classroom for science lessons and research. Each grade level has their own section. This can be viewed by scrolling down the page.	Moodle is an extension of the classroom. All assignments are in Moodle and dates are posted in the calendar.
Are students expected to use Moodle at home? If so, how?	I will provide class time for all graded moodle activities. Students can use the site at home as an extension to the class to supplement their science education, or to provide additional time for unfinished assignments.	Yes. Students should be able to check homework weekly on Moodle, and view assignments missed when out of class.	Yes, they are expected to use the calendar to check class/homework assignments. If they are absent they can see class assignments and print documents to paste into their notebook. Students who have difficulty with writing can go to the site to print documents to paste in the notebook prior to class activities, so they don't struggle with writing in class. There will also be announcements of extra credit opportunities.
Where can I view current activities occurring in class?	Check your child's notebook. We take daily notes which always include the page from the text or the name of the online activity we are doing that day. Any incomplete notes are homework. Notebook checks occur every 4-6 weeks, students then have one additional week after the check to show the teacher any completed work. They should have an index page stapled to the inside cover of their science notebook, this shows the notebook grade.	Homework can be viewed by scrolling down just beneath the picture of Dana Middle to "News You Can Use!" Click on "What's Happening in xth Grade." This will give a week-by-week description of what's happening in class, what will be due for homework, and if notebooks will need to be turned in on the last day of school that week.	Activities are located in the middle of the page and are posted in the calendar with links to the directions.

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Where can I find the date of my child's next notebook check?	On the top of my website, there is a "Note to Parents". It is posted in this section.	This will be available in the "What's Happening in xth Grade!" section. For example, if the week of September 20-24 is an A-week, and notebooks are due at the end of the week, under the calendar week, it will say something similar to, "A-week notebooks are due this Friday."	In the calendar and on the upper left of the page under notebook check with a list of activities that will be graded. Dated will be post at least a week in advance.
Where is my child's homework posted online?	In general, students are not assigned separate homework. Homework consists of classwork that was not completed during class. Information will be found in the planner or notebook.	It will be in moodle. Scroll down under the picture of Dana Middle to "News You Can Use," and click on "What's Happening . . ." for your grade level. Once you are delivered to this webpage, scroll down to the corresponding week by date.	Yes, in the Moodle calendar.
Where can I view my child's assignment scores?	Moodle is not used as a tool to record assignment scores. All teachers at Dana use a separate electronic gradebook to display this information. Parents can access the "assignments" section of the gradebook via ParentConnection. Please allow science teachers a minimum of two weeks from when the assignment was turned in to enter the grades into the gradebook. You can login to ParentConnection by visiting to www.danamiddle.com and selecting ParentConnection from the quick links menu in the upper left corner of the screen. Login information was mailed home to parents at the end of September. Parents who need assistance with their username and password for ParentConnection should select Parent FAQs from the Parents menu on the main page of the Dana website. The ParentConnection article found in this section provides directions for retrieving your password.		
Where can I find teacher recommended websites related to classroom activities?	They are linked in each section of the website.	If you scroll down to your grade level section, you view the lesson. Any links to additional websites will be found at the bottom of the lesson. The links could be helpful or fun to check out...and are in-line with the topic.	Current science articles are post on the left side of the page under upcoming events and web sites on the right under the admin block.
Are there any other tips or tricks to help people navigate the website?	If you get a course view that shows work that was due a year ago, please click on my name at the top of the page. That should take you to the appropriate page. You will know you are there when you see the words Earth Science in a fiery orange font.	Under "Beginning of the Year Must-Do's" there is a copy of the syllabus, syllabus homework, and "How to Earn a Great Notebook Grade," among other things. Some of these links may be helpful in knowing what is expected of students in and out of class.	Frequency of use is the best way to learn how to navigate. All activities are in the middle of the page and everything is link in the calendar.
I have questions re: the Moodle website that are not answered here. Who do I contact?	Mr. Alpert – jalpert@sandi.net	Ms. Brown – mbrown6@sandi.net	Mr. Ruiz – jruiz2@sandi.net