SGET 700: Tools for the Development of Instruction
Buddy Check #2: Educational Design

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1. Comment on Home Page effectiveness. Is the home page effective? Do the graphics engage the user? Do they reinforce the site's objectives? Is an overarching question or purpose evident when first entering the site. If a splash page is used, does it add value to the site. Do the graphics and layout draw you in? Is there any addition or change that would improve the page in these areas?

    The homepage is engaging. I can clearly see that there are 7 lessons in this unit. The slideshow keeps me engaged with various pictures about the mole. The captions on the slideshow make me wonder more about the topic. As you scroll down, there are several links for more information in our unit.

2. Comment on home page cognitive effect. Are site objectives clear? Based only on the home page, give a brief description of the sites objectives and purpose are. Is the content written in clear, concise, and age appropriate language? Is an attempt made to relate to user interests and goals. Is that effective? What changes would improve the home pages effectiveness in these areas?

    The objective of the site seems to be clear—that students will learn more about what the mole is and how it is calculated. The objectives are not written in "teacher speak", which is good.

3. Comment on the Learning Activities included in this site. Do they closely relate to the site's objectives and audience? Are they easy to locate? What do you feel are the requisite skills that must be addressed in order to reach the objective? Are activities developed to build on prior skills? Are they scaffolded to lead learners from basic to advanced skills? Will examples or a model be included? Would this benefit the site or be unnecessary?

    The activities in each lesson refer back to the knowledge learned in that lesson. There are some technology components, but there are also some worksheets as well. They increase in rigor from lesson to lesson. From looking at the Teacher Page and the Flowchart, I can tell that there are different versions of this site. I enjoyed seeing that, because if I just wanted to use this as quick review, I could.

4. Comment on the Activity/Process of this site. Is each step of the process stated clearly and accurately defined? Are they sequenced so that so that needed knowledge/skills would logically be acquired by the user? Are directions accurate, explicit, clearly stated, and written in age-appropriate language. Does this site include references to an example or model? Would

doing so improve the process? As a user of the site, give feedback as to improving directions or other verbiage.

Students are able to easily determine the sequence of events—watch a video and complete two or 3 practice activities. The video "text" is given for students to read, rather than listen to audio. There are reference sheets given, and models. There are no "examples" of worksheets because that would give away the answers. The directions are clear.

5. Comment on the effectiveness of the site relating to desired outcomes. Are outcomes clearly stated. Is this done is a way that users will readily understand? Are outcomes closely related to learning objectives and activities. Do desired outcomes build from basic to more advanced?

The outcome of this site is to learn more about the chemical mole. The activities build on basic knowledge to more advanced knowledge. The outcomes are closely related to the objectives and can be seen from the site.

6. Comment on the evaluation instruments included in this site. Are evaluation tools easy to find? Is the language used clear and appropriate to the audience? Is evaluation criteria specific and easy to interpret? Are there additions or changes that would aide you as a learner? Are there alternate evaluation tools that might benefit you as a learner?

I am unable to see any "rubrics" or evaluation tools used. I see the worksheets, which can evaluate student knowledge. I would maybe add answer keys, with password protection, to the Teacher page to help with this category.