Customizing an Assignment

We have created Physics Classroom tasks to be as turn-key as possible. There's no need to create your own questions or graphics or do any coding. The tasks are completed, packaged, and ready-to-use as is. However, we have also provided a means by which teachers can customize the tasks. Here's three of many examples of why a teacher might wish to customize one of our tasks.

Example 1
A Minds On Physics mission contains 10 Question Groups. You mostly love the activity; but there's two question groups that you don't care for at all. No problem. You can remove them from your students' experience.

Example 2
A Concept Builder contains three levels of difficulty. You teach a Conceptual Physics class and your students would have significant troubles with the third difficulty level. No problem. You can set up the assignment so that it only scores the first two levels of difficulty. Or you could make the third level a bonus level for those students willing to accept the challenge.

Example 3
There are five Calculator Pad problem sets on Coulomb's Law that contain a total of 27 problems. Your favorite problems are dispersed across all five problem sets. You would like to make a single problem set with your eight favorite problems. No problem. You can easily make a custom problem set from your eight favorite problems, despite the fact that they are in located in different problem sets. (**NOTE**: We will discuss customized CalcPad problem sets in a different document.)

Decisions, Decisions, Decisions
The first decision you need to make before customizing an assignment is to decide what question groups or assignment parts need removing. That decision is best made by using our Preview functions to preview the task. From your **Account** page, navigate to the **Teacher Resources**. You will find links to preview versions of Minds On Physics, Concept Builders, Concept Checkers, and Science Reasoning Center activities on the **Teacher Resources** page.

Questions in our activities are organized into Question Groups. Questions in the same group are very similar to one another; they each target the same aspect of a concept. For Minds On

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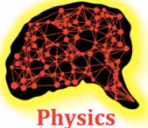
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Minds On

Physics

Version 5.0

Module: Kinematic Graphing

Mission KG7: Interpreting Velocity-Time Graphs

This is **Teacher Preview** mode.
Teacher Preview allows teachers with Task Tracker accounts to view the questions of a MOP mission. By viewing questions and their organization into Question Groups, you can identify the Question Group number(s) you want removed from your students' experience. The Question Groups are removed in Task Tracker when you assign the MOP mission.
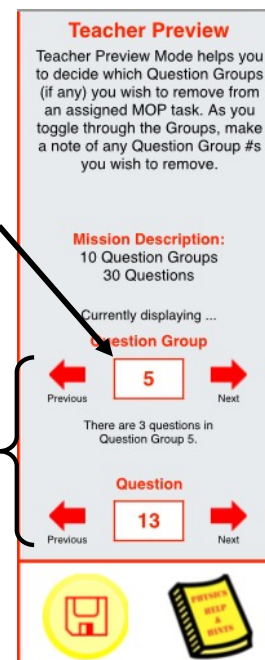
Start *Teacher Preview* Mode

Proofreaders:
Start Here

Physics and Concept Checker activities, use the preview version of the activity to identify any Question Group that you would like removed from the user experience. Preview versions allow you to easily navigate from question group to question group and to view the questions within each question group. See screenshot at right. Concept Builders and Science reasoning Center activities consist of parts. For instance, most Concept Builders consist of three difficulty levels or three parts. You can elect to remove one or more of the parts of these activities. As you preview a task, make a note as to which Question Group or which assignment part you would like to remove.

Teacher Preview

Teacher Preview Mode helps you to decide which Question Groups (if any) you wish to remove from an assigned MOP task. As you toggle through the Groups, make a note of any Question Group #s you wish to remove.

Mission Description:
10 Question Groups
30 Questions

Currently displaying ...
Question Group

◀ Previous   **5**   ▶ Next

Navigation Display

There are 3 questions in Question Group 5.

Question

◀ Previous   **13**   ▶ Next

Customizing the Assignment

To customize the assignment, navigate to the assignment within Task Tracker. First visit the **Class** page where the **Task Table** lists all assignments. Tap on the **View** (👁) button located to the left of the assignment's name in the **Task Table**. This opens the **Task** page for that assignment. Scroll down to the **Task Activities** section of the Task page. For Minds On Physics and Concept Checkers, the "activities" are the Question Groups. You can tap on the **Trash Can** next to a Question Group to remove it from the assignment. Once you confirm your choice, the Question Group will be removed from the Task Activities list and added to the **Add Additional Activities** pull-down menu. You can use the pull-down menu and the **Add** button to add the Question Group back into the task. For Minds On Physics and Concept Checkers, any removed Question Group will never be presented to the student.

Task Activities

Here are the current Activities for this Task.

Task Activities listing after Question Group 7 has been removed.

	Name	Description
🗑	Question Group 1	Multiple Choice: Identify the definition of acceleration
🗑	Question Group 2	Multiple Choice: Identify the acceleration for a constant velocity motion (velocity and time duration are given)
🗑	Question Group 3	Multiple Select: Given six short descriptions of a motion, identify all that represent an acceleration
🗑	Question Group 4	Multiple Select: Identify the criteria for determining if an object is accelerating or not
🗑	Question Group 5	Multiple Select: Identify the three controls on an automobile that cause an acceleration
🗑	Question Group 6	Multiple Choice: Given a car's speed in four consecutive seconds, identify the type of motion it has
🗑	Question Group 8	Multiple Choice: Given a short description of an object's motion, identify the direction of acceleration
🗑	Question Group 9	True-False: probes the distinction between velocity and acceleration
🗑	Question Group 10	Multiple Choice: Given direction of v and a, state the direction of motion and whether the car is speeding up or slowing down

Add Additional Activities

Question Group 7 ⌄	**Add**

To add the Question Group back in, select from pull-down menu and tap the Add button.

For Concept Builders and Science Reasoning Center activities, the parts of the activity can be removed. Navigate to the **Task** page in the usual manner and scroll down to the **Task Activities** section. The assignment parts are listed there. Tapping on the **Trash Can** to the left of the name of the assignment part will remove that part from the assignment. It will not be factored into the scoring for the assignment.

Task Activities listing after "Adding Value to Acceleration" has been removed.

To add "Adding Value to ..." back in, select it from the pull-down menu and tap the Add button.

Customizing a Concept Builder or Science Reasoning Center activity does not actually change the look of it. If there are three parts in the Concept Builder, it will still display three parts on the Main Menu. It's just that the removed part will not be factored into the scoring or be part of the required assignment. Students will know this if they tap on the **View Requirements** button for the assignment on their **Assignment Board**. The requirements of the assignment are always displayed in a pop-up window (shown below on right).

Tap to view Requirements.

Health Penalty Customization

Minds On Physics and Concept Checkers utilize a Progress Bar and a Health Bar. The Progress Bar starts at 0% and increases towards 100% as students answer questions correctly. If there are 10 questions in the activity, then the Progress Bar goes up by 10% for each question that is answered correctly. The Health Bar starts at 100% and goes down for

each missed question. The Health Bar also increases for each correctly answered question by the same amount that the Progress Bar increases. The Health Bar can exceed 100% but it will never display it as such. The amount that the Health Bar decreases for each missed question is known as the **Health Penalty**. A typical default value for a Health Penalty for a Minds On Physics mission is 50% (it actually varies a bit depending on the number of questions in the activity). If the Health Bar drops to 0% before the Progress Bar reaches 100%, then the mission resets and the student must start over. While it sounds like a ruthless strategy to build into an activity, it does accomplish a number of positive things besides the obvious negative - increasing frustration ... but that's a story for another day.

The point of this discussion is that the **Health Penalty** is customizable. For instance, if you're using Minds On Physics with students that generally have a low frustration tolerance, it would be wise to lower the Health Penalty. This can be done on the **Task** page for the Minds On Physics mission. Enter an alternative value (lower than 50% is suggested) for the **Health Penalty** field. This field is located in the **Task Properties** section of the **Task** page.

	50 ⇕
Health Penalty:	20 = 20% Reduction in Health per wrong answer. **ALTERING WILL ERASE ALL PARTIALLY COMPLETED STUDENT PROGRESSES.** **All who finish will still have complete.**

Scoring Customization
Besides customizing the student experience by removing Question Groups or activity parts, Task Tracker allows teachers to customize scoring. View our **All About Scoring** PDF to learn all the scoring options available for a Task Tracker assignment.