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Accessible Laboratory Environments for Teaching Biology

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Abstract

This workshop will describe a classroom development project that provides a fully inclusive and accessible environment for all students including students with disabilities. Science curriculum has many highly visual and interactive components that create barriers to the full participation of disabled students. New technologies in the teaching of biology and in the accommodation of students with disabilities have become available to allow us to create learning spaces that will enhance student-teacher and student-student interaction and support multiple modes of learning. We will describe a number of accommodation strategies that we have developed over the last ten years to enhance learning for all disability groups focusing on the use of technology as a means to accommodate individual learning challenges.