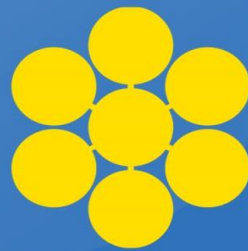




**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

# SAS



**Standards  
Aligned  
System**

---

## **Project Based Assessments**

**SAS Help Desk:**

Email: [helpdesk@pdesas.org](mailto:helpdesk@pdesas.org)

Toll Free: 1.877.973.3727

<http://www.pba.pdesas.org/Help>

**Getting Started: Student**  
**June 2014**

**Q:** How do I log on to PBA?

**A:** Navigate to <http://pba.pdesas.org/>

Your Tutor or Assessment Coordinator will give you your username and password.

Once you receive your username and password, enter them into the appropriate locations on the website and then click Log On.

**SAS** Standards Aligned System  
pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Welcome | Log On

Home FAQ Help

## Welcome!

Please enter your user name and password to log in to the system.

User name

Password

Log On

**Wise Words**

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who cannot read them.  
- Mark Twain

Listen

**This Standards Aligned System (SAS) website has been created to support students in the completion of Keystone Project Based Assessments.**

### Keystone Project Based Assessments

For students completing a project based assessment as a pathway to proficiency to meet state graduation requirements, this website provides access to the projects. A project is a task that contains related activities based upon the Performance Level Descriptors and Eligible Content of the Keystone Exams. Along with the tasks and activities, the site offers study resources to support successful project completion.

### Checkpoints

As students work through the planned tasks, locally assigned tutors will check work for completeness and accuracy before students move to the next task. Tasks must be completed in the order they are arranged in the project. Once a task has been approved, the student can move to the next task.

### Help

At any time during project work, students may click on the Help tab and request assistance. The help message will be sent to the assigned tutor.

**Q:** How do I find my projects?

**A:** As soon as you log on to PBA, you will be directed to a list of your projects. Click the link to the project you would like to begin.

The screenshot shows the 'Project Based Assessments' student interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'My Projects', 'FAQ', and 'Help'. A 'Progress Key' section includes status indicators: Not Ready for Activity, In Progress, Help Requested, Submitted, Approved, and Needs Attention. Below this is a table of projects with columns for Keystone Area, Module, Project, Assigned, and Progress. An arrow points to the 'A Fishy Tale' project in the first row.

Keystone Area	Module	Project	Assigned	Progress
Biology	BIO Module A	<a href="#">A Fishy Tale</a>	08/29/2013	✓ □ □ □ □ □
Biology	BIO Module B	<a href="#">Floating with Disaster</a>	08/29/2013	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Literature	LIT Module 1	<a href="#">The Last Tree Standing</a>	08/29/2013	□ □ □ □ □ □
Literature	LIT Module 2	<a href="#">The Emerging Woman</a>	08/29/2013	□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**Q:** What is the Project Overview?

**A:** The Project Overview provides you with a summary of a project's objectives, the assessment scenario, task directions, and the Eligible Content items being assessed.

The screenshot displays the 'Project Based Assessments' interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the 'SAS Standards Aligned System' logo on the left, the text 'Project Based Assessments' in the center, and a user login area on the right that says 'Welcome, PDEProjectTest | Log Off' and 'You are logged in as Student for Whitehall-Coplay School District'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'My Projects', 'FAQ', and 'Help' links. The main content area is titled 'A Fishy Tale Overview' and includes a 'Student Information' link. A 'Listen' button is visible. The page is divided into three sections: 'Project Based Assessment Scenario', 'Task Directions', and 'Eligible Content Items Assessed'. The 'Project Based Assessment Scenario' section contains a paragraph about a trout introduced into a stream. The 'Task Directions' section lists five numbered steps: 1. Read the overview, 2. Read the background information before each task, 3. Review and examine the provided resources for each activity, 4. Follow the directions to complete the survival guide for each task, and 5. Refer to the scoring guide as you complete each task. A note below the directions states: '\* Please note: many answer boxes can be expanded by dragging the shaded area of the box to allow more room for work.' The 'Eligible Content Items Assessed' section has a checkmark icon and a note: 'The list below summarizes the competencies you must demonstrate in the process of completing this project.'

**Q:** How do I start my projects?

**A:** To begin a project, click **Project Tasks**.

The screenshot shows the SAS Project Based Assessments interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the SAS logo and the text 'Project Based Assessments'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'My Projects', 'FAQ', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'A Fishy Tale Overview' and has a 'Student Information' link. The 'Project Tasks' tab is highlighted with a black box and an arrow pointing to it from the left. The page content includes a 'Project Based Assessment Scenario' about a trout, 'Task Directions' with a numbered list, and 'Eligible Content Items Assessed' with a checkmark.

You will be asked to enter a **Student Access Code**. Your **Tutor or Test Administrator** will give you this code. Once you enter the code, click **Authorize** and you can begin your project.

The screenshot shows the SAS Project Based Assessments interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the SAS logo and the text 'Project Based Assessments'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'My Projects', 'FAQ', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'A Fishy Tale Tasks' and has a 'Student Information' link. The 'Test Administrator/Tutor Authorization' section is highlighted with a black box and an arrow pointing to it from the left. The page content includes an 'Approval Required' message and a form for entering the 'Student Access Code' with an 'Authorize' button.

**Q:** How do I upload documents?

**A:** In some **Activities** you have the ability to attach a document or image as part of your response. You will know when this option is available to you, as an option, because a **'Browse'** button will appear at the end of the **Activity**. To upload a response, first click **Browse**. Then find the document you would like to attach and **Click it**. Finally, click the **Open** button. The document or image you attached will be included as part of your answer and submitted along with the rest of your responses in a **Task**. To replace a document you have already uploaded, simply follow the uploading directions again. This time, click and open the replacement file. Your new document will overwrite the original.

**a.** Graph the system of equations from Activity 2 on a coordinate plane and label each line.  
 You may use any of the following web-based graphing tools, a different tool of your choice, or paper and pencil.

- <http://www.meta-calculator.com/online/>
- <http://www.coolmath.com/graphit/>
- <http://www.webgraphing.com/>
- <http://www.algebrahelp.com/calculators/function/graphing/>
- <http://web2.0calc.com/#s>
- [http://my.hrw.com/math06\\_07/nsmedia/tools/Graph\\_Calculator/graphCalc.html](http://my.hrw.com/math06_07/nsmedia/tools/Graph_Calculator/graphCalc.html)

Once the graph is completed, save a screen shot or scan the document. Screenshots or scanned work should be uploaded below.

**Browse**

File name:  All Files **Open** Cancel

NOTE: You may not modify the work on this activity.

work at both jobs, pay your bills, and still attend your classes and do well each week.

ate plane and label each line.  
 different tool of your choice, or paper and pencil.

▪ <http://web2.0calc.com/#s>

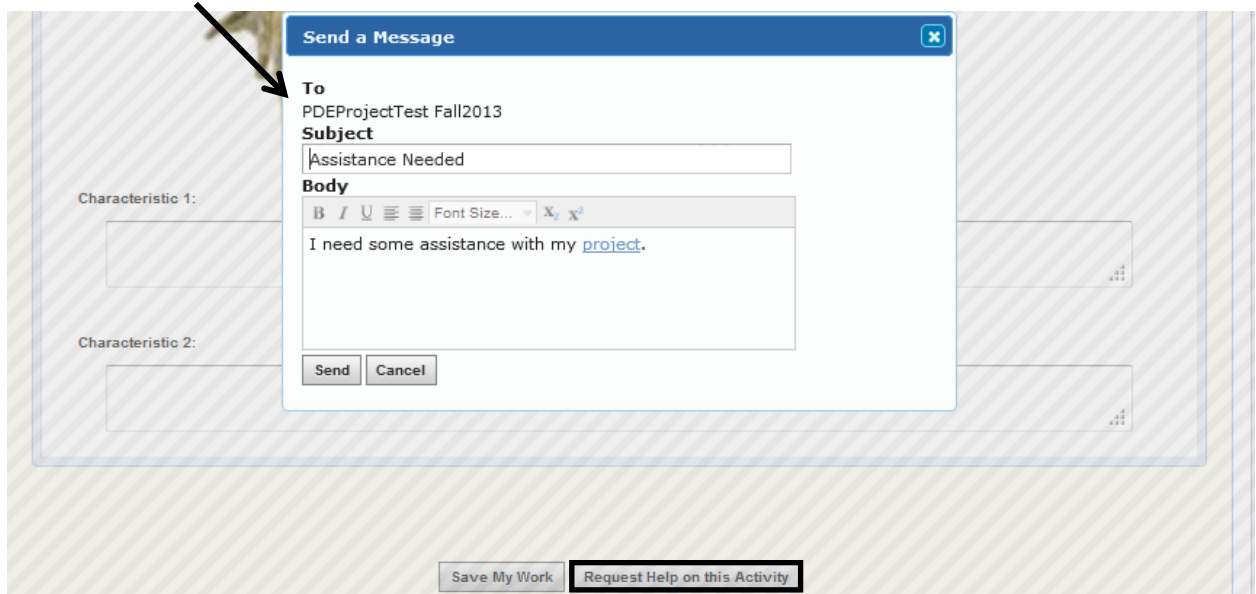
▪ [http://my.hrw.com/math06\\_07/nsmedia/tools/Graph\\_Calculator/graphCalc.html](http://my.hrw.com/math06_07/nsmedia/tools/Graph_Calculator/graphCalc.html)

Once the graph is completed, save a screen shot or scan the document. Screenshots or scanned work should be uploaded below.

**Browse** VMCs with no alignments.xlsx

**Q:** How can I get help from my Tutor?

**A:** You have the **ability** to ask for help by clicking the **Request for Help on this Activity** button. This will open a Send a Message that you can send to your **Tutor**. When you're ready to send the message, click **Send**.



**Q:** What are the **Study Resources**?

**A:** As you work on your **Activities**, are resources for you to review if you need help.

Overview Project Tasks Scoring Guide **Study Resources** Documents

**Study Resources**

You can select a learning objective below to find some helpful study resources as you prepare for your project.

Eligible Content	Description	
BIO.A.1.1.1	Describe the characteristics of life shared by all prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms.	<a href="#">Associated Resources &gt;&gt;</a>
BIO.A.1.2.2	Describe and interpret relationships between structure and function at various levels of biological organization (i.e., organelles, cells, tissues, organs, organ systems, and multicellular organisms).	<a href="#">Associated Resources &gt;&gt;</a>
BIO.A.2.1.1	Describe the unique properties of water and how these properties support life on Earth (e.g., freezing point, high specific heat, cohesion).	<a href="#">Associated Resources &gt;&gt;</a>
BIO.A.2.2.3	Compare and contrast the structure and function of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids in organisms.	<a href="#">Associated Resources &gt;&gt;</a>
BIO.A.4.1.2	Compare and contrast the mechanisms that transport materials across the plasma membrane (i.e., passive transport – diffusion, osmosis, facilitated diffusion; active transport – pumps, endocytosis, exocytosis).	<a href="#">Associated Resources &gt;&gt;</a>
BIO.A.4.2.1	Explain how organisms maintain homeostasis (e.g., thermoregulation, water regulation, oxygen regulation).	<a href="#">Associated Resources &gt;&gt;</a>

By clicking on any resource, you will automatically be directed to that resource.

**Q:** Can I return to a project if I don't get it finished in one sitting?

**A:** If you are unable to finish an **Activity**, when you are done with your work click **Save My Work**.



To return to the activity: log in to the PBA site and select the project to which you need to return. Enter your tutor-provided **Student-Access Code**. You will be brought back to your project and can, once again, begin working on your activity.

**Q:** Should I save my work?

**A:** Yes, after each Activity you should save your work by clicking 'Save My Work'.



**Q:** How can I tell if I'm finished with a **Task**?

**A:** Once you've finished all of the **Activities** in a **Task**, you are ready to submit your work. Submit your **Task** to your **Tutor** when you reach a **Checkpoint**.

When you submit a **Task**, your status changes to **Submitted**. This means that your **Tutor** is reviewing your work.

Checkpoint 2

Status: Submitted

Once your **Tutor** approves your work, your status will change to **Approved**. You cannot continue with your work until the task you submitted is approved by your **Tutor**.

Checkpoint 1

Status: Approved

**Q:** What do I need to do in order to have my project evaluated?

**A:** In order to have your project evaluated, every **Task** in the project must be **Approved** by your **Tutor**.

In addition to this, you must also evaluate your own project. To evaluate your understanding of the **Eligible Content**, first click the **Scoring Guide**. Then click the circle beneath **Student** to indicate whether or not you believe your work meets the criteria of the **Eligible Content**.

**A Fishy Tale Scoring** Student Information

Overview Project Tasks Messages **Scoring Guide** Study Resources

### Scoring Guide

You must self-evaluate your project and score your project prior to submission. Your tutor will evaluate your project using the same checklist.

- If your tutor checks all sections yes, your project will be forwarded to a review panel for scoring.
- If your tutor does not have all sections checked yes, it will be returned to you for improvement.

The list below summarizes the competencies you must demonstrate in the process of completing this project.

Evaluative Factor/Criteria for Presentation	Eligible Content	Student	Tutor
Describe the unique properties of water and how these properties support life on Earth (e.g., freezing point, high specific heat, cohesion).	BIO.A.2.1.1	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Related to:  
[- Survival Guide Entry - Physical Properties of Water](#)

**Evaluation**

- Approved
- Not Approved
- Not Yet Submitted

Once you complete your evaluation, your **Tutor** will also conduct an evaluation. When both you and your **Tutor** have evaluated the project and marked all criteria as Satisfactory, it is then submitted by your **Tutor** and reviewed by an **Evaluator**.

**Q:** How do I know if I passed?

**A:** Once two **Evaluators** have marked your project as approved, you have passed the **Project Based Assessment**. Your **Tutor** and the **Assessment Coordinator** will be given that information and will then pass it along to you.

**Q:** What if my project is returned and graded as unsatisfactory?

**A:** You will have the opportunity to review the feedback provided by the **Evaluators** and correct/redo those activities deemed unsatisfactory. Once you have made your corrections/edits to your satisfaction, your **Tutor** will review to ensure the work is satisfactory and submit.