Reasons for You to Teach with Labster

Inside the Labster learning experience, your students are able to master concepts and practice techniques that prepare them for success when they are face to face inside your real lab. Designed to supplement an instructor-led course, Labster’s 160+ simulations have specific learning objectives that align with traditional curriculum goals. When paired with good teaching, Labster helps students achieve more.

Here’s how you and your students can benefit from Labster:

1. Improve learning outcomes

“Students tend to learn better when you incorporate both online simulations/virtual labs with a hands on type of experience.”
—Selinda Martinez, Laredo College

2. Close the knowledge gap between students

Labster helps you to reach your low-performing students. In fact, “back row” students learn the most with Labster!

“Labster can be a large gain for non-traditional students who have gone to under-resourced schools and don’t have a significant science background. Labster can help to fill in the knowledge gaps.”
—Jennifer Bobenko, Professor of Biochemistry, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Simulations increase learning, motivation, self-efficacy and perceived relevance

3. Motivate and engage students

Today’s students are accustomed to rich, multimedia experiences and can lose attention and focus with traditional lectures and lab training. Labster’s interactive, gamified learning platform engages them with story-driven missions that push them to apply their knowledge and skills to solve realistic problems.

“The simulations are engaging and they stimulate students to be more interested in doing science labs. They help to enhance the understanding of not only the skills but also the underlying principles behind the labs.”
—Wei-Hsum Yap, Taylor’s University

“They really love that each simulation has a story, letting them understand how they can use the techniques and apply them in the real world. It’s a different kind of learning where there is a constant flow of theory, questions, etc. It’s like learning on the go.”
—Pirjo Spuul, Tallinn University of Technology

4. Save time in the lab by assigning Labster as a pre-lab

“Students were spending three hours doing something as simple as making a few buffers to get ready for a lab, which was ridiculous. After we added the Labster simulation on making solutions and acid-based buffers, they were getting out of there in an hour and a half! Using Labster as a pre-lab makes life so much easier for me, and it also makes it easier for my students. It cuts down on their stress and it cuts down on my workload.”
—Stephanie Dillon, Director of Freshman Chemistry Laboratories at Florida State University

5. Provide immediate feedback to enhance understanding

Labster’s embedded quiz questions require students to read and digest the theory presented within its interface. Students can use the instant feedback of a correct or incorrect answer to regulate their own learning. The more students become aware of their own improvement, the more likely they are to feel motivated to learn.

“You’ll be able to observe individual performance and class trends from within your Teacher Dashboard and can respond if additional learning supports are required.

“Since I have 220 students in their first year, it is close to impossible to provide individual feedback for the coursework. Labster saves me time to set up questions for the mock exams and quizzes. Students can practice at home, and they can get personal feedback.”
—Sabine Matallana-Surget, Stirling University
6. Help students learn from their mistakes while remaining safe
Labster permits students to fail and see the consequences of their mistake.

In this image, a student’s avatar is blinded by exposure to hazardous chemicals. They can re-attempt this lab until they are able to successfully operate the eye wash.

7. Give every science student access to a modern lab
Access to modern equipment is out of reach for many students, especially in large-enrollment, undergraduate courses. Labster’s virtual labs present an affordable alternative to purchasing expensive equipment or building new facilities.

“Schools are getting a world class lab to come to them. Low socio-economic status students, first generation students, black students, brown students, all kinds of students, are therefore exposed to what could be for them a career.”
—Sophia Rahming, Associate Director for Center for the Advancement of Teaching at Florida State University

8. Help Students Visualize Science
Labster’s 3D animations foster students’ understanding of unobservable phenomena and unseen processes.

“What I like most about the simulations is that you can see what is going on at the molecular level. You can’t see this when you’re performing a real experiment in a physical lab. In a real lab, it doesn’t say or show what is happening at the molecular level. But in the virtual labs, it shows you that every step of the way.”
—Teresa Artho, Gewerbliches Berufs- und Weiterbildungszentrum (GBS)

9. Give Yourself the Freedom to Teach
You know your students best. Labster is versatile enough to be used in virtually any curriculum design and with any learning theory.

“One of the things that I’ve been enjoying about Labster as an instructor is the flexibility to direct students to different variables as suits my curriculum.”
—Kim Failor, Stanford Online High School

Solving a Spectrum of Learning Needs with Labster

Decide for yourself by playing Labster’s lab safety simulation for free!