

Grading Tips for DIVE Online Earth Science

DIVE Online automatically records and stores most of your child's grades, including Review Questions, Facts Practice, and Quarterly Reviews (aka Section Reviews). This can be considered the "objective" portion of their total course grade. The "subjective" portion is what needs to be graded by you, and consists of giving them a completion grade for their definitions, notes, and laboratory activities. This portion is subjective because one person's definition of "complete" may be different than another's. For example, if you have a child with dyslexia, their ability to take notes may be different than another child who has excellent penmanship. Also, who knows better than a parent when their child is doing their best or just being lazy? You know better than anyone whether your child is putting a good effort into their schoolwork, and the subjective portion of their grade allows you to reward them or penalize them as needed. Below I will outline two methods for you to use to give your child a grade on the subjective portion.

More challenging method: Use the Microsoft Excel grade calculator on the Course Home page to record a weekly Notes and Definitions grade, and a Lab Activity grade. Grade them on a 100 point scale. You are wanting to grade them on effort, neatness, and completeness. Follow the instructions on the Getting Started video to help you learn how to use the grade calculator. At the end of the year, you will have an overall average from the Excel grade calculator (45% of total grade), and an overall average for the online portion (55% of total grade). The final grade equals $0.45 \times \text{Excel grade} + 0.55 \times \text{Online grade}$. For example, if the Excel grade = 93 and the Online grade = 95, then you would do $0.45 \times 93 + 0.55 \times 95 = 94.1$

Easy method: This is for the extra-busy parent! Don't use the Microsoft Excel grade calculator. Just let DIVE Online keep up with the objective portion. Make sure your child is completing definitions, lecture notes, and lab activities each week, but don't spend time deciding on a grade until the end of the year. At the end of the year, look through their work, and give them a grade based on what you think they deserve. Obviously, a student who completed almost everything would get a much higher grade than one who, for example, completed all the lectures and labs, but none of the definitions. Give them a grade on a 100 pt scale for all their subjective work. then, add the objective and subjective portions together as described in the previous paragraph.

Please let me know if you have any questions! You can always email at [diveintomath \[at\] sbcglobal.net](mailto:diveintomath@sbcglobal.net)

ServingChrist,
Dr. Shormann