

Viewing TLF Flash learning objects in Windows XP

Some schools are experiencing problems viewing The Le@rning Federation (TLF) Flash learning objects in Windows XP using Flash Player 5. What the user sees is a blank or white page that looks like the learning object is loading. **Note:** The learning object, however, never loads in the page.

Background

Many schools are now running Windows XP. Although the existing TLF learning objects have not been developed explicitly for Windows XP, most learning objects run successfully on XP.

Note: Some existing learning objects do not run on default installations of Windows XP. A blank or white page that looks as though the learning object is loading will appear on the user's computer if Flash Player 5 rather than Flash Player 6 is installed. This problem will also occur if Flash Player 6 is installed without administrator privileges.

To run TLF Flash learning objects, the Flash Player must be upgraded from version 5 to version 6. Successful installation of Flash Player 6 on Windows XP requires the user to have administrator rights. Unfortunately, many users within schools will not have the administrator rights necessary to upgrade the Flash Player to version 6.

A solution – upgrading to Flash Player version 6

This solution involves upgrading Flash Player from version 5 to version 6 on Windows XP. The user performing the upgrade must have administrator rights on the computer. Log-in to the computer as an administrator.

1. Download a Flash Player version 6 installer from <http://www.macromedia.com/support/flash/ts/documents/oldplayers.htm>. Note: there are separate installers for Internet Explorer and Netscape browsers, and for Windows and Mac operating systems.
2. Run the Flash Player 6 installer and follow the instructions.
3. Test the installation by visiting <http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/welcome/>.
4. Look for the Flash Player section of the page.
5. Select the About tab to check that version 6 of the player has been installed.

An alternative test is to attempt to run one of the TLF Flash learning objects, which was not operating correctly previously.