Database Presets Survey Research Report

Moodle Product Experience

August 2022

Background

Moodle HQ is working on Database activity improvements for Moodle 4.1, including the addition of some new "presets" to facilitate database set-up.

The team has an idea of which presets might be useful, based on what has already been created and shared by the Moodle Community.

Research Objective

The goal of this survey is to provide additional data on **which presets would be most useful to the most people**, in order to help Moodle HQ prioritize which presets to include in Moodle 4.1.

Summary

FINDING 1

The most useful and desired Database presets according to survey participants are:

- For collecting proposals for a topic, project or research

- As a journal, reflection tool, or research log

- For collecting images

- For a reading or resource list

FINDING 2

The Database activity provides robust functionality and capabilities, but poor usability and a difficult set-up are creating a barrier to entry, confusion and uncertainty.
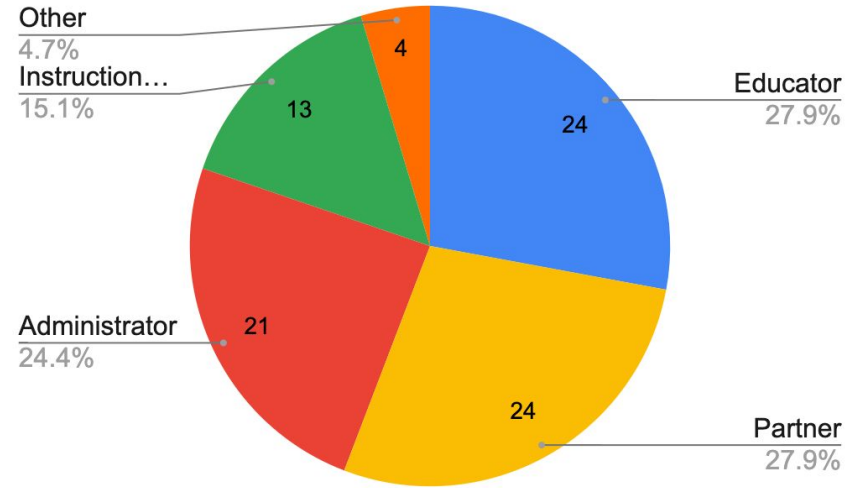
Audience

We posted the survey to forums on Moodle.org, the Moodle Users Association, and the Moodle Partners site.

We received **86 responses**, from Educators, Admins, Instructional Designers and Partners.

Participant breakdown

Other
4.7%

Instruction…
15.1%

Educator
27.9%

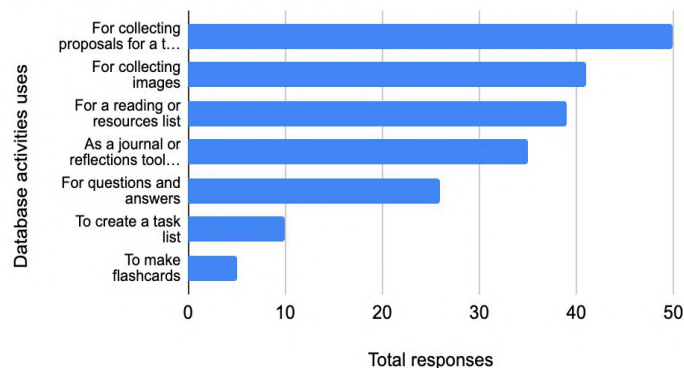Administrator
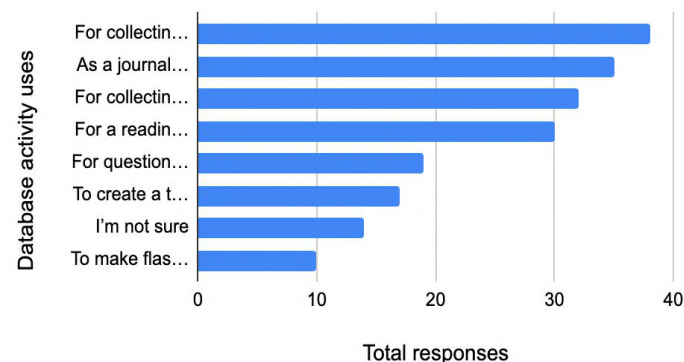24.4%

Partner
27.9%

4

24

13

21

24

Results

The 4 most common uses for Database activities, and the 4 most desired Database activity presets were the same:

- For collecting proposals for a topic, project or research

- As a journal, reflection tool, or research log

- For collecting images

- For a reading or resource list

If you've used the Database activity in Moodle previously, what have you used it for? Select all options that apply.

Which of the following would you most like to have as a Database set-up (or "preset") in Moodle? Select up to 3 options.

Additional feedback

Participants shared additional common uses/needs for Database activities, and a few were mentioned more than once.

- Time-tracking (3)

- A feedback tool (3)

- Teacher office hours (2)

- To create a timeline (2)

- Study log for students (2)

- For brainstorming (2)

- Collecting student personal information (2)

- A more advanced glossary (2)

Additional feedback

We received 38 final comments, with most centering around the following pain points:

Difficulty with set-up (12)

Poor design and appearance (10)

- Set-up is difficult and confusing for the average user

- Difficulty with set-up is preventing many educators from using Database activity

Additional feedback

We received 38 final comments, with most centering around the following topics:

Difficulty with set-up (12)

Poor design and appearance (10)

- The Database activity user experience needs improvement

- Database has powerful functionality and capabilities, but the look and feel can deter people from using it

Thank you.