What is a learning object?

“A[ny] entity, digital or non-digital, which can be used, re-used or referenced during technology supported learning.” – Learning Object Metadata Working Group of the IEEE Learning Technology Standards Committee (LTSC)

“The main idea of ‘learning objects’ is to break educational content down into small chunks that can be reused in various learning environments, in the spirit of object-oriented programming.” – David Wiley

“Learning Objects are small or large resources that can be used to provide a learning experience. These assets can be lessons, video clips, images, or even people. The Learning Objects can represent tiny ‘chunks’ of knowledge, or they can be the whole courses.” – Claude Ostyn, Click2Learn

“… Small chunks or granules of information that can be accessed individually or mixed, matched and glued together to form a variety of instructional courses or minicourses.” – Training, September 2000

“A Learning Object is a self-standing, reusable, and discrete chunk of electronic content that meets an instructional objective. Learning Objects meet SCORM requirements so that users can easily identify and locate specific learning objects in a web-based environment.” – UW Learning Technology Development Council (LTDC) Working Group

“A stand-alone unit of instruction that generally doesn’t require a pre- or post-requisite, and contains this trio of elements: a measurable objective, a learning activity, and an assessment determining whether the objective has been met.” – Jim L’Allier, NETg

“A reusable, media-independent chunk of information used as a modular building block for e-learning content. Learning objects are most effective when organized by a metadata classification system and stored in a data repository such as an LCSM.” – American Society for Training and Development (ASTD)

“Digital media that is designed and/or used for instructional purposes.” – Brigham Young University

Source for the above: http://adlcolab.uwsa.edu/lo/what.htm

“Reusable learning object (RLO) [is] used to specify a collection of elements that contains some information, learning activity, metadata, context, and learning objective. May be nested inside of other RLOs to create a hierarchy of objects. The size in terms of number of learning objectives, related information, and learning activities is up to the organization to define. Distinguishes learning from information.” – Chuck Barrit & F. Lee Alderman Jr., Book “Creating a Reusable Learning Objects Strategy”, 2004

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