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COMPLEX & DEEP THINKING: AN APPROACH TO PBL

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How do you feel about Project Based Learning?

I am a PBL Pro!

Need some help with implementation

Help please!
"If we teach today's students as we taught yesterday's, we rob them of tomorrow"

-John Dewey
SESSION OVERVIEW

1. THE WHAT & THE WHY
2. EXPERIENCE A PBL
3. THE HOW
4. CREATE & COLLABORATE
THE WHAT & THE WHY
Have you ever implemented Project Based Learning? If so, was it successful? If not, what do you know about Project Based Learning?

MUSIC-PAIR-SHARE

When the music begins, move around the room. When the music stops, pair with someone nearby and discuss your answer to the question posed.
Project-based learning is a teaching method where students gain and apply skills by working on a long term project where they complete an in-depth inquiry into a specific topic or question.
It poses an authentic problem with multiple solutions. It requires core subject knowledge to propose solutions to a problem.
PROJECT-BASED LEARNING SHOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

21ST CENTURY COMPETENCIES
Problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity/innovation

IN-DEPTH INQUIRY
Extended, rigorous process of asking questions, using resources, and developing answers

NEED TO KNOW
Gain knowledge, understand concepts, and apply skills in order to create final products

VOICE AND CHOICE
Students make choices about the products created, how they work, and how they use their time

PUBLIC AUDIENCE
Final products are presented to other people, beyond their classmates and teacher
It allows for student voice through real world application by allowing the students to obtain in-depth understanding of the concepts your students need to understand.
STANDALONE ASSIGNMENT

COMPLEMENTARY

✔
EXPERIENCE A PBL
THE HOW
Five Steps of the PBL Process

1. Driving Question
2. Research & Plan
3. Create a Draft
4. Revise & Edit
5. Present

Teacher Responsibility
Student Responsibility
Driving Question
Introduce a question or problem
The driving question guides instruction. It must be meaningful and should be anchored in a real-world situation.
BEGIN WITH 2-3 STANDARDS

DETERMINE WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO WITH THESE STANDARDS IN THEIR REAL LIVES
"A GOOD DRIVING QUESTION MAKES A PROJECT INTRIGUING, COMPLEX, AND PROBLEMATIC.

...REQUIRES MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES AND THE SYNTHESIS OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF INFORMATION BEFORE IT CAN BE ANSWERED.

...SHOULD ADDRESS AUTHENTIC CONCERNS."

-PAGE 37
DIFFERENT TYPES OF QUESTIONS

1. DIRECT OR CLOSED QUESTION
2. OPEN-ENDED QUESTION
3. DRIVING QUESTION

1 & 2 MIXED/PERFECT FOR PBL

BASED ON FACTS
BASED ON CONCEPTS
STAY AWAY FROM "GOOGLE-ABLE" QUESTIONS.
Driving Questions should be:

Standards supported

Relevant (real-world)

Engaging

Open-ended

Meaningful

Challenging
Creating driving questions are hard.
## How to Write an Effective Driving Question

### Step One: Framing Word(s)
- How can...
- How do...
- Should...
- Could...
- What...
- _______

### Step Two: Person or Entity
**Decide who is doing this project.**
- I, we
- We as...role play, occupation
- Town, city, county, community
- State, nation
- Organization
- _______

### Step Three: Action or Challenge
**What action will the students be taking?**
- Build, create, make
- Design, plan
- Solve
- Write
- Propose, decide
- _______

### Step Four: Audience or Purpose
**What is the purpose of the final program and/or who will be the audience?**
- Real world problem
- For a public audience
- For a school
- For a classroom
- For an online audience
- _______

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**Example Topic:** Three Branches of Government

**Should the three branches of government decide the laws for our country?**
PRACTICE
DIRECTIONS

With a shoulder partner, determine if the question is an effective driving question. If it is not an effective driving question, change the question into a driving question.
#1

**CONTENT FOCUS:** ECONOMICS

**DRIVING QUESTION:** WHAT IS ECONOMICS?
#2

CONTENT FOCUS: SCIENCE

DRIVING QUESTION: WHICH TREES GROW IN OUR COMMUNITY?
CONTENT FOCUS: SOCIAL STUDIES

DRIVING QUESTION: COULD THE GREAT DEPRESSION HAPPEN AGAIN?
#4

**CONTENT FOCUS:** MATH

**DRIVING QUESTION:** HOW IS MATH USED WHEN DESIGNING A BRIDGE?
Driving questions should be:

- Standards supported
- Relevant (real-world)
- Engaging
- Open-ended
- Meaningful
- Challenging
RESEARCH & PLAN
READ AND FORMULATE IDEAS
★ Project planning should be completed as a group (if students are grouped)

★ Goals should be revisited daily and revised as necessary
Students should plan out:

- What they know
- What they need to know
- What resources they will use
- What research questions to use based on driving questions
★ CREATE A TEAM/INDIVIDUAL TASK LIST
  ○ WITH TIMELINE AND BENCHMARKS

★ EACH TEAM/INDIVIDUAL CAN BE GIVEN A CALENDAR TO TRACK THEIR WORK
CREATE A DRAFT

PUT YOUR PLAN INTO ACTION
Using their task list, students begin gathering information and formulating ideas needed to solve the problem in the driving question and completing project requirements.
SHOULD OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE PROCESS
PRESENT
PBL Rubrics - A Great PBL Rubric Includes...

★ Clear goals and student-friendly wording
  ○ Have students assist with creating the rubric!
★ 4-6 sub-categories specific to the format of your project
★ Content/subject area categories
CREATE & COLLABORATE
With your team and using the information in the envelope provided, brainstorm a PBL:

Your chart should include the following:

➔ Content Area Focus
➔ Desired Grade Level
➔ Driving Question
➔ Presentation Platform

You have ten minutes.

10:00
5 Quick Tips on How to Get Started with PBL
START OFF SMALL.

Don’t start off with a large, eight-week long PBL.
2 RENOVATE A PROJECT

Take an old project and restructure it into PBL.
Main course, not dessert

Within PBL you are teaching and investigating through the project, not teaching and then doing the project.
Once students are done, reflect on the learning process to gauge success.
Don't go crazy.

PBL requires a different approach than what most of us are used to, so try not to run yourself ragged attempting to implement PBL.
FAQS
How many days should I spend on a PBL?

★ At least two weeks
  ○ Allows time for students to thoroughly answer all questions, research, and revise
What do I do with early finishers?

★ Encourage early finishers to continue to research and revise their project or ask/answer additional questions.
★ They can help facilitate other students.
HOW CAN I INCLUDE MY STRUGGLING STUDENTS?

★ PARTNER WORK OR SMALL GROUPS
  ○ SET GUIDELINES SO THAT ONE PERSON ISN'T DOING ALL OF THE WORK
  ○ PULL TEACHER LED SMALL GROUPS TO HELP REINFORCE ANY CONTENT SKILLS NEEDED
I am a busy teacher. Where can I find pre-made project based learning modules?

★ **Teachers Pay Teachers (TPT)**
★ **Buck Institute for Education (BIE)**

Links to TPT and BIE resources are provided in Google Classroom.
QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR CONCERNS?
How do you feel about Project Based Learning now?

I am a PBL Pro!

Need some help with implementation

Help please!

Please complete the session evaluation found in Google Classroom.
THANKS!

If you would like any additional support on PBL or technology integration, please feel free to contact us at:

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