



WHY PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING?

(...because we're not preparing students for Jeopardy! anymore)

Students must leave the classroom equipped with 21st century skills and ready to meet the challenges of real life. One of the best ways to meet these demands is through interdisciplinary Problem-Based Learning scenarios. This type of classroom instruction promotes communication, collaboration, curiosity, organization, and problem solving . . . all major components of any reputable set of standards.

The PBL Project provides an authentic purpose for math and ELA while, at the same time, integrating Social Studies, Science, and other content areas. It offers educators a chance to shift the work of learning from the educator to the students, where it belongs. If we wish to prepare a generation of students who can solve real-world problems, we simply must give them real-world problems to solve...Problem-Based Learning is the way to accomplish this task.

Our PBL Resource:

- 1. Provides a variety of "Master Problems" based on real-life scenarios that are engaging to students
- 2. Approaches each problem from multiple points of view across several subject areas
- 3. Provides a range of stimulus items appropriate to the problem (articles, videos, infographics, statistics, etc.)
- 4. Includes leading questions for classroom discussion to help students further explore the topic
- 5. Guides students through the "information-gathering" process
- 6. Gives students an online platform to enter their responses (proposals, arguments, presentations, etc.)
- 7. Enables teachers to view, grade, and analyze student responses
- 8. Gives teachers the ability to create their own Problem-Based scenarios, including the uploading of all resources and assigning of student responses
- 9. Incorporates current events through Problem-Based "Weekly Warm-ups"

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