

A green chalkboard with two pieces of pink chalk and some faint white chalk drawings. The chalkboard is the background, and the text is overlaid on it. The chalk is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, and there are some faint white chalk drawings scattered across the board.

Project-based Learning

What, Why, and How?

Think-Pair-Share

- Think about this question: “If your school was in the path of a major storm or fire and you only had time to take three items with you as you leave (other than students) what would they be and why?”
- Partner with someone and share responses





What is PBL?

- **Project Based Learning** is a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to *investigate* and *respond* to an **authentic**, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge.



What PBL is NOT

- It is *not* making a model of the sanctuary.
- It is *not* dressing like your favorite character in a book and giving a report.
- It is *not* constructing an edible model of a cell.
- It is *not* preparing a relief map of the United States.
- It is *not* cooking and sampling foods from the foreign country you are studying.
- **It is *not* an activity, but a strategy!**

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Essential Elements of PBL

- Key knowledge/understanding
- Challenging problem
- Sustained Inquiry
- Authenticity
- Student voice and choice
- Reflection
- Critique and review
- Public product

PBL and DI

- Teams and grouping
- Reflection and goal-setting
- Mini-lessons, centers, and resources
- Voice and choice in products
- Formative assessments
- Balance teamwork and individual work



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Why PBL?

- Demonstrates proven, researched-based benefits
- Makes school more engaging for students
- Improves learning
- Builds success skills for college, career, and life
- Helps address standards
- Connects students and schools with communities and the real world
- Makes teaching more enjoyable and rewarding

Jesus used PBL

- Jesus and the Samaritan woman
 - *Problem: Give me a drink. . . If you only knew . . . I would give you living water.*
 - *Question: Where would you get this living water?*
- Jesus and Nicodemus
 - *Problem: You must be born again.*
 - *Question: How can a man be born when he is old?*

Embodies EGW's Philosophy of Education

- “The work should be made practical.”
Education, p.111
- “Let them learn to draw lessons and discern truth for themselves.” *Education, p. 119*
- “The interest of the pupil must be enlisted.”
Education, p 188
- “The youth need to be taught that life means earnest work, responsibility, care-taking.”
Education, p. 215



More EGW

- “The education that consists in the training of the memory, tending to discourage independent thought, has a moral bearing which is too little appreciated. As the student sacrifices the power to reason and judge for himself, he becomes incapable of discriminating between truth and error and falls an easy prey to deception.” *Education*, p. 230
- “Upon graduation, thousands find themselves out of touch with life. They have so long dealt with the abstract and theoretical that when the whole being must be roused to meet the sharp contests of real life, they are unprepared.” *Education*, p. 265



You CAN do it!

- Start small
- Try something—anything!
- Google is your friend. 😊
- ***HAVE FUN!***
- *Eileen White will show you more of the HOW of Project-based Learning.*



Resources

- http://www.bie.org/about/why_pbl
- <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/differentiated-instruction-strategies-pbl-andrew-miller>
- Buck Institute for Education

