



Designing More Rigorous Technology Projects

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Allen ISD – Allen, TX
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 9:30 – 11:30am or 12:30-3:30pm



Texas governor signs legislation to reduce standardized testing

By Valerie Strauss, Published June 13, 2013. Email the writer.



Reacting to popular outrage over high-stakes standardized testing, Gov. Rick Perry signed school reform legislation Monday that revamps high school graduation requirements and cuts the number of mandatory end-of-course exams from 15 to 5.

Perry had not revealed his decision until he signed it, leaving activists concerned about what would go with the legislation, the state's largest newspaper reported here. But in the hours after the signing, a revolt against excessive amounts of high-stakes standardized testing that has spread to other states in more than a year and a half ago in Texas and that has spread to other states.

The new reform initiative Perry signed into law cuts from 15 to 5 the number of mandatory end-of-course exams students must take to graduate from high school, and eliminates a requirement that test scores represent 15 percent of a student's grade for the course.

The new law, among other things, gives students more curriculum flexibility, an apparent nod to teenagers not headed to college.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/tx-governor-signs-legislation-to-reduce-standardized-testing/>




Hash as in Corned Beef

Hash as in Tag

allenisd

Find today's slides:
<http://bit.ly/fontblog>



Today's Road Map

- **An Unfocused Lens:**
The Dizzying Choices
- **Refocusing Our Lens:**
What Do We Mean by Rigor?
- **Testing Our Lens:**
Student Work Samples

An Unfocused Lens:
Dizzying Choices

Turn and Talk:
We spend millions of district dollars on technology in order to _____.



Share Out:
We spend millions of district dollars on technology in order to _____.



Something to Think About:
Technology can be a game changer. What game do you want it to change for your students?



We have been in the ed tech business for a lonnnnnng time.

"Rombic Dodecaedreux Calendar 2013" by Philip Chapman © BY-NC-SA, <http://flickr.com/photos/ochene/534277572/>



Please stand – and stay standing – if you have used the following technologies in your classroom.





TURN AND TALK:
How have past technology initiatives improved student learning?
What made them succeed?
What lessons did you learn about being a stronger coach and guide for your students via technology?



What is It?

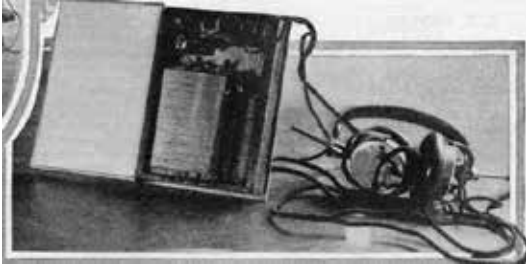
“With the everyday added perfections in the transmission and reception... Mary ... will enjoy her ... lessons as much as she now enjoys her bedtime stories. Everything will be an "open book" to her. A complete set in the shape of a leatherette covered book will take the place of bulky primers and readers. Home work will now be a great joy to the kiddies and lessons will be learned with much greater facility.”



The Game-Changing Technology!



Close-Up of the Game-Changing Technology!



Text and images from <http://paleofuture.ajzmodo.com/this-radio-book-was-the-future-of-education-509067457> used under Fair Use exemptions

<http://bit.ly/bridger-ipad>



TURN 'N' TALK!

If a two year-old can use an iPad, what are the implications for our work?

Image: 'whoa' <http://www.flickr.com/photos/540214489@N00/653076303>



SHARE OUT!

If a two year-old can use an iPad, what are the implications for our work?

Image: 'whoa' <http://www.flickr.com/photos/540214489@N00/653076303>



**Refocusing
Our Lens:**

**What Do We
Expect Students
to Accomplish
with Technology?**



school of
information
M

Connecting people, information, and
technology in *more valuable ways*

*It's so easy to
make things look
fancy...*

**...that sometimes we credit
students what programmers
behind the scenes have
actually facilitated.**

(Little input > Big output)




Fancy Nancy (© Coward)

Take a Look ...
<http://bit.ly/sol-animation>

And here's how to make one for yourself ...

<http://visibletweets.com>

Little
input,
big
output.



And sometimes, our students expend a disproportionate amount of

e-effort

over knowledge-building.

(BIG INPUT > LITTLE OUTPUT)



The image shows a book cover for 'Beowulf: Monster-Slayer' by Paolo Storrle and Ron Randall. The cover features a warrior in chainmail fighting a dragon. A green speech bubble is overlaid on the right side of the cover, containing text about 'e-effort' and knowledge-building.

My
Explorers
Report!!!!!!

By Kristin Fontichiaro

The image shows a red cover for a report titled 'My Explorers Report!!!!!!' by Kristin Fontichiaro. The cover features several cartoonish characters: a yellow character with a camera, a black character with a mischievous grin, and a yellow character with a zipper for a mouth. The text is in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

Christopher Columbus was born in 1461.



He was born in Italy.



HOME OF PIZZA!!!!!! YUM!!!!

He had 3 boats



Nina



Pinta



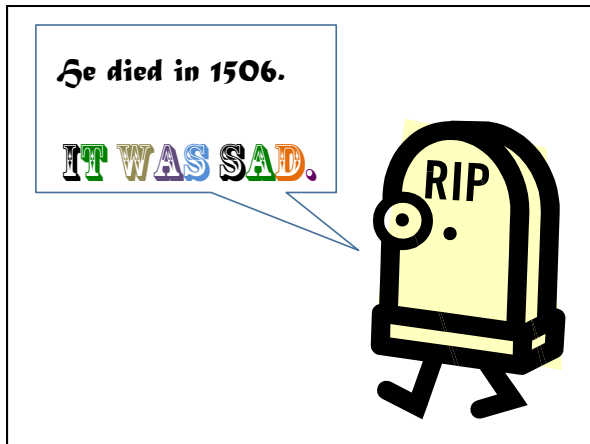
Santa Maria



Ban Voyage



He discovered AMERICA!!!

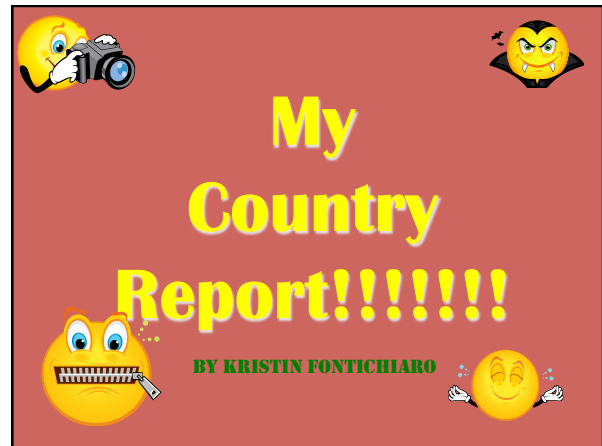
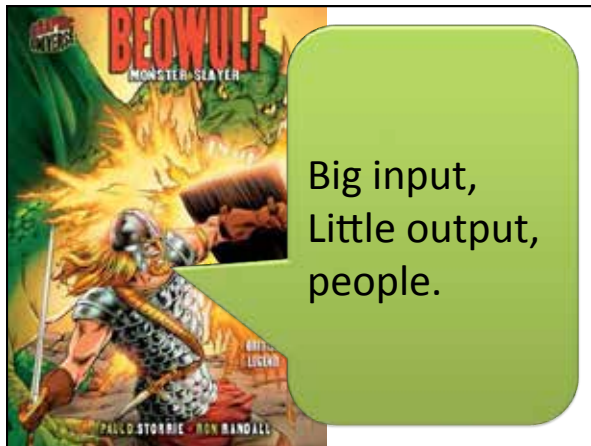


Turn and Talk:

What letter grade would you give this assignment?

Why?










My Battle Report!!!!!!!




BY KRISTIN FONTICHIARO



My Mammal Report!!!!!!!



BY KRISTIN FONTICHIARO



* Bernajean Porter

Where's the Beef?*

How Do We Know Rigor When We See It?

You can't just
push away
the uncertainties;
you have to
push through
them.”

-Jeff Stanzler

So let's start pushing

What's rigor?
Challenge, not
rigor mortis.
(Ask me about
giving a talk in
Italian!)

Rigorous
Learning
with
Technology

(with thanks to Roberta Sibley, Laurie Olinsted, Jeff Stanzler, and Raya Samet for contributing their feedback!)

Decontextualized



Authentic

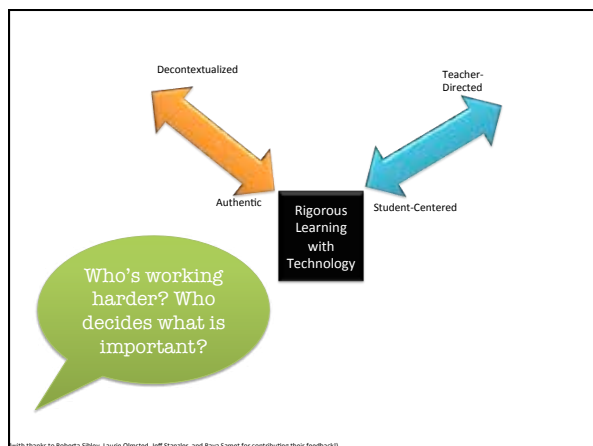
Rigorous
Learning
with
Technology

What's in it for
me?
How does this
apply to me? Why
does this matter
to me?

(with thanks to Roberta Sibley, Laurie Olinsted, Jeff Stanzler, and Raya Samet for contributing their feedback!)

Raise Your Hand ...

- My Albania Report
- The Thrilling Life of Millard Fillmore
- South Dakota!!!!
- Francis Poulenc: Mid-Century French Composer and Personal Inspiration



Research Guide: The Presidents

Name _____

Name of President: _____

When was he born? _____

When did he die? _____

When was he in office? _____

What number president was he? _____

Draw a picture of your president here.

How are we doin' on Bloom's?

http://epitt.coe.uga.edu/images/1/1e/Bloom_1.jpg © Old Version

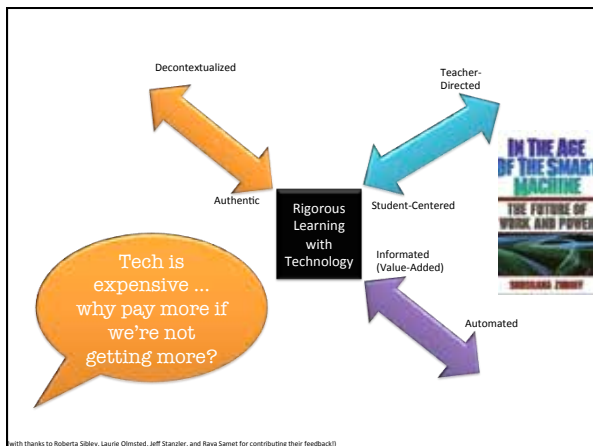
http://epitt.coe.uga.edu/images/1/1e/Bloom_1.jpg New Version

How are we helping students see the essence of the presidents?

Context in history?

Relevance to how life is today?

http://epitt.coe.uga.edu/images/1/1e/Bloom_1.jpg



Which of these automate paper and pencil? Informatize?

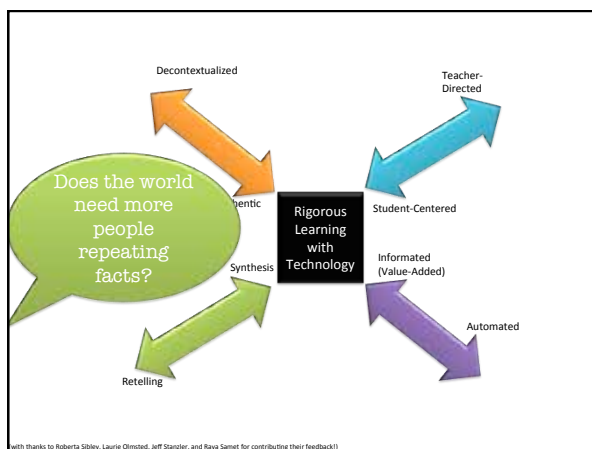
Kristin

Magnetic

Non-Magnetic

Created with TuxPaint, a free, open-source version of KidPix.
TuxPaint.org

In other words, how can technology take students beyond where they can go without technology?



Frame the Project

Scenarios

Project-Based Learning

Problem-Based Learning

Real-World Situations



Frame the Project


Select a lighthouse. Tell us the history of the lighthouse, its first keeper, the kind of lens it has, where it is located, and whether it is on the mainland or an island. *Spelling and grammar count!*

OR

The Governor of Michigan has proposed selling off ten lighthouses in order to reduce state costs. Identify an existing lighthouse that could be turned into a new kind of business to profit our state. Use PowerPoint to create a proposal you can share at her next open meeting. Think about your audience when planning!



Framing Strategies

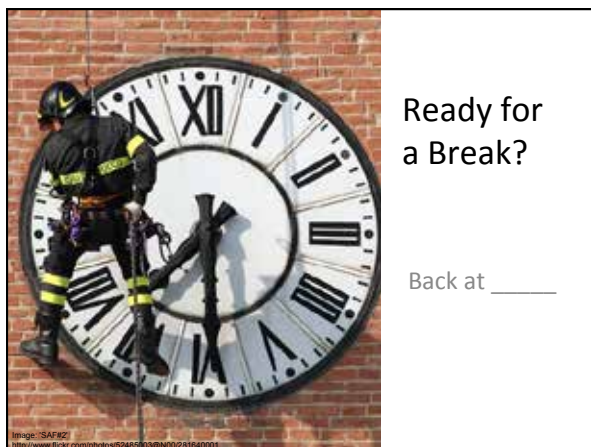
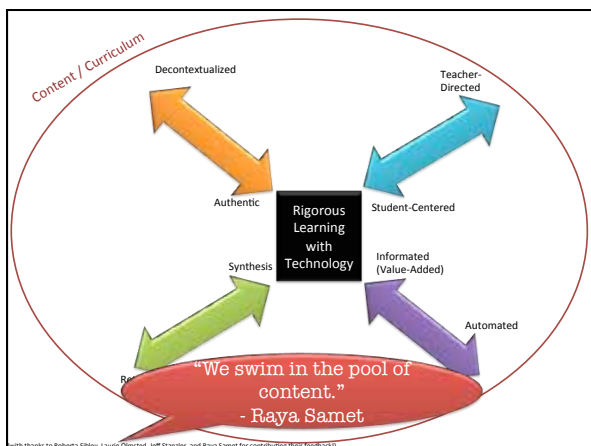


- **Situate the topic in the student's home, work, school, or social life.**
 - How would this impact your family?
 - What if this were in your backyard?
 - How should the principal react to ____?
- **Tell a story. Ask students to do research to finish it.**
 - The three pigs want to build another house. The hardware store is out of straw, wood, and brick. What would be another good insulator? Why?
- **Flip history.**
 - How might the U.S. be different today if the war ended at Gettysburg instead?

Compare and Contrast

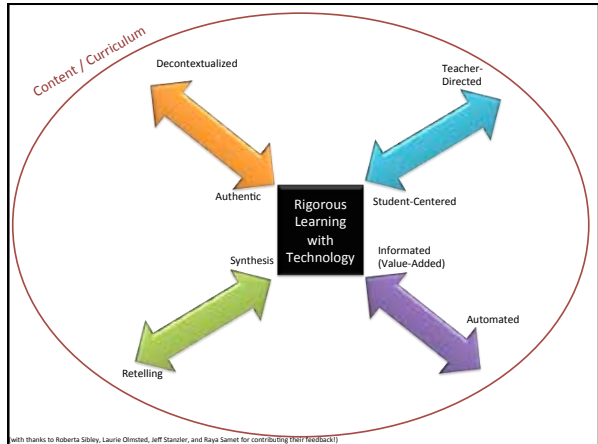
Gerald Ford was the 38th President. He died in 2006. He was from Michigan. He was Vice President before he was President. He lived longer than any other U.S. President. His wife was named Betty.

Have you ever had to forgive someone but you didn't want to do it? I wonder if that is how Gerald Ford felt when he pardoned Richard Nixon. We learn something different from every U.S. President. From Gerald Ford, I learned that it is important to



Video Reports

<http://bit.ly/sofia-otter>



Glogster me, baby!

<http://bit.ly/watsons1963>

<http://bit.ly/watsons1963>

Check it out!!!!

The... ..
... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..
... ..

The... ..
... ..
... ..

<http://bit.ly/watsons1963>

CLICK HERE!!!!

The bombing happened at Sunday, 15th September, 1963. At the 16th Baptist Church.

Check it out!!!!!!!!!

Addie May Collins, Carole Roberston [sic], Denise Mcnair, and Cynthia Wesley had all died the day of the bombing.

The explosion blew a hole in the church's rear wall, destroyed the back steps, and left intact only the frames of all but one stained glass window.

<http://bit.ly/watsons1963>

CLICK HERE!!!!

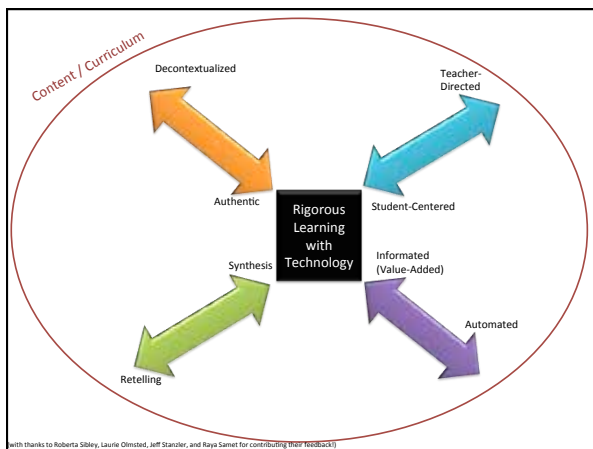
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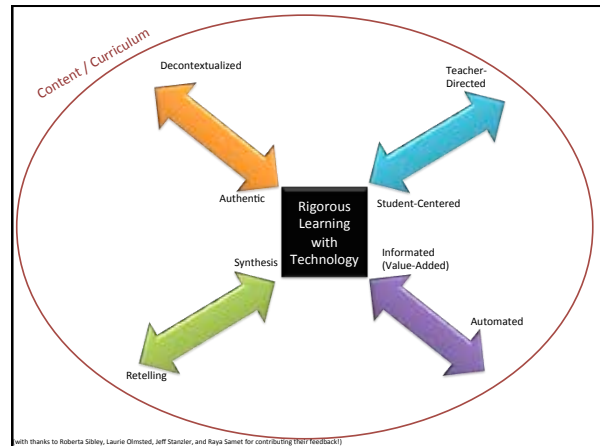
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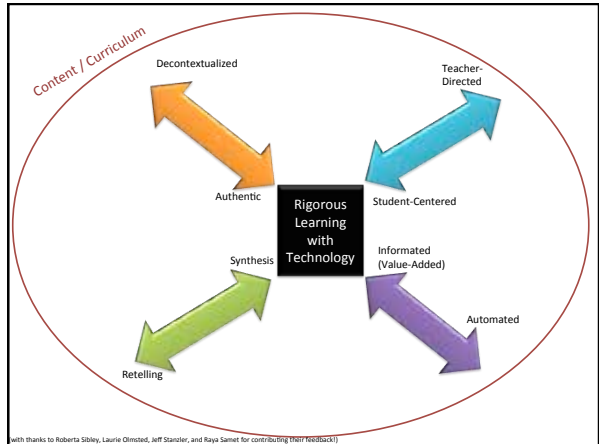
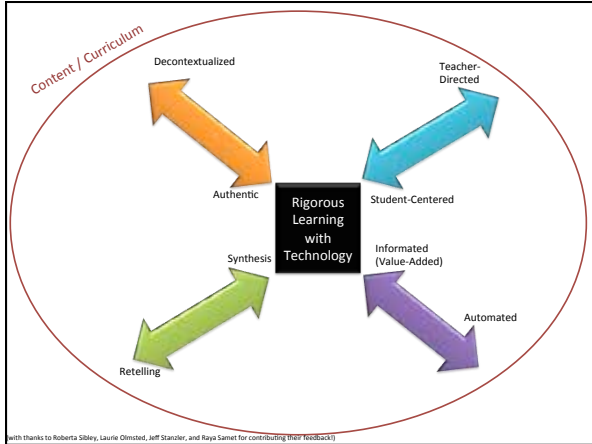
Copied verbatim from Timelines.com



Fred's students are required to blog weekly for middle school social studies. They summarize what they have learned and then are asked to think about how what they are learning relates to their lives today. They are also required to comment productively on each others' blogs.



In Maria's science class, students conduct experiments in small groups. Then, they go to the class wiki, where Maria has already set up a table with a row where each group can report its data. By pooling data onto a single table, students can clearly see if their data follows the patterns of other groups.





My Ed Tech Manifesto

Finish one of these sentences:

I believe in using technology that _____.

When using educational technology, I will maximize _____ and minimize _____.


(Or create your own!)

In Closing, Keep In Mind ...

- Novelty and tech fluency are not the same thing.
- The more tools you use, the more time you spend on tool orientation and sacrifice thinking time.
- Would you rather have a nursing home aide who could make a slide show or identify your symptoms?
- And ...



Questions?
<http://bit.ly/fontblog>
[@activelearning](#)



The image is a collage of educational materials. At the top left, there is a white box containing the text 'Questions?' followed by the URL 'http://bit.ly/fontblog' and the Twitter handle '@activelearning'. Below this, there is a collection of colorful educational cards and book covers. One prominent card is titled 'PODCASTING 101' and features a photo of a student. To its right is a large, colorful graphic of a tree where the branches are formed by various letters of the alphabet (A-Z) and numbers (0-9). Below these are several smaller cards with titles such as 'Find Out Firsthand Using Money', 'Go Straight to the Source', 'Make Great Making Use of Every Voice', and 'Out Creative Arts and Other Recordings'. The cards are arranged in a slightly overlapping, fan-like pattern.