Improving STEAM Outcomes through Blog-Based Portfolio Feedback Loops

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Objectives: The objectives for this one hour BYOD session are to:

- Introduce teachers to the benefits of using blog-based portfolios during the design process.
- Simulate a prototyping-testing-improving cycle while collecting real-time data and feedback using blog-based portfolios such as Medium, Edublogs and Weebly and data collection tools such as smartphones and tablets.
- Provide an exemplar learning strategy and lesson plan which can be directly applied to the classroom.

ISTE Standards: Innovative Designer, Computational Thinker, Creative Communicator

Read Blog Post for more information about improving STEAM outcomes below:
https://medium.com/@kathleenfritz/istesteamblogs-blog-based-portfolio-feedback-loops-28401aaa0ea2

Examples of Portfolio Blogs
https://kidblog.org/class/makerscholars-cohort-1/posts
https://kidblog.org/class/mr-coleys-6th-grade-a-day/posts

15 Minutes: All Team Members

1. Break up into teams of 4-6 people each
2. Upload Medium app and Youtube App on to smartphone or tablet
3. Sign in with Google, Facebook, Twitter or via email
4. Select 1 team member’s mobile device and Medium Account to create your Team’s Blog
5. Start a post

Note: All teams will use camera on smartphone and upload images to Medium and videos to Youtube and then link to Medium in the post.

20 Minutes: Design-Test-Reflect

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team Members 1 and 2</th>
<th>Team Members 3 and 4</th>
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| 1. Team Members 1 and 2 will design and test the plane in the flight path to go as far as possible | 1. Team Members 3 and 4 will create a post which will consist of the following:
  - Who’s in the team?
  - What are your predictions?
  - Description of the airplane features.
  - 2 images of the making of the airplane |
2. Each team member will go into another Team’s blog and make a comment answering:
   1. How well did their blog inform you about their design?
   2. If the team built it again, what changes would you suggest and why?
   3. What ideas did you get from the blog you read to improve your team’s airplane design?

15 Minutes: Improve and Reflect

Team Members 3 and 4

Team Members 1 and 2

Team members 3 & 4 will make improvements on the plane and test it again along the flight path.

Team members 1 & 2 will create a 2nd blog post which will consist of the following:
   • What changes were made to the airplane design?
   • How did the design changes affect the flight path?
   • Were the changes successful and why?
   • 1 video of the testing of the airplane
   • Publish video to youtube from your mobile device.
   • Add link from youtube video to the post.
   • Publish the blog with the tag ISTESTEAMblogs

All Team Members comment on your team’s final post: “How will blog-based portfolio feedback loops affect future projects in my classroom?”

10 Minutes: Share Out

Group share out reflecting on how the process went for their team.