Project-Based Learning: Faculty and Librarian Partners in Pedagogy

What is Project-Based Learning?

- **PBL** is an instructional approach that presents students with complex, authentic problems or challenges, through group collaboration, extended periods of investigation, and reflection on new ideas and opinions.

Problem-Based vs. Project-Based

- **Projects**: single answer, thematic, curricular add-on, teacher driven, summative, school-based.
- **PBL**: open-ended, driving question/challenge, curricular focus, student driven, ongoing, real-world

Standards and Alignment

- Learning activities help students develop 21st century skills—visual, information, financial, and media/digital literacy. Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic are “merged” with the 4 C’s: Communication, Collaboration, Creativity, and Critical Thinking.
- Information literacy & research skills are at the heart of PBL!

Curricular Example

- **Entry Doc**: Letter presenting the potential problem
- **Entry Document**: Driving Question
- **Mini-Lessons**: Searching resources, citations, & tech tools
- **Critical Friends**: Building relationships & utilizing knowledge
- **Group Organization**: Committee investigates problem & creates presentation
- **Authentic Issue**: Relevant & creative choices
- **Mini-Lessons**: Searching resources, citations, & tech tools
- **Rubric**: Align w/ learning outcomes & standards

Primary sources, websites, books, articles, tech tools, digital collections, media, info lit standards, learning outcomes, open access, workshops/training, people, & community resources.

How can YOU support PBL?

- Buck Institute for Education: [www.bie.org](http://www.bie.org)
- Edutopia: [http://www.edutopia.org/project-based-learning](http://www.edutopia.org/project-based-learning)

PBL Resources:

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Register for the PBL Institute in Indianapolis: [http://pblinstitute.com](http://pblinstitute.com)