BOXLIGHT WEBINAR SERIES

Surface Learning vs. Deep Learning: How Technology Can Help Students Think Deeper | October 29, 2019

Presenters:

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Recording Link:

https://mimio.adobeconnect.com/pe1k3pizxghu/

Webinar Questions and Answers

Q: If our district curriculum only requires students to think at a surface level, how can we adjust to include deeper learning into our classroom?

A: There are various technology tools that can help students make connections, analyze information, and deepen understanding. Depending on the content area, it may be easier to find natural ways to deepen the connections in some areas than in others. Any subject area can use writing and research to help deepen learning, even if the skill set of the teacher isn't in these areas. For those who may be comfortable with writing, as an example, look for content and making connections in what students write about rather than all the conventions for writing. In addition, time becomes a critical element in order to address standards for each content level. The more we can find ways to collaborate with other curricular areas, we can find ways to deepen understanding through hands-on learning projects and possibly also save time when trying to cover standards.

Q: What are some other suggestions for tech tools to deepen learning?

A: It really depends on the content area as there are many tools available to integrate. One starting point would be the presentation aspect to deepen learning. If technology is available for students to use, begin with projects where they use presentation or audio software/apps to make something content specific that can demonstrate the knowledge or show analysis. As an example, use Google Sites or Google Slides to pull together information to share with others. Students are able to plug in all sorts of other learning elements in order to make a presentation and own the information. Other presentation tools that have been useful include Powtoon, Animoto, WeVideo, iMovie, and GarageBand. These are some resources that allow students to take surface learning and transfer it into something more complex to deepen their understanding—it requires students to know the process. Other tools commonly used include digital microscopes, thermometers, sensors such as the Labdisc, etc. When these are used in conjunction with technology, they accelerate what students learn—they can take those tools and apply them to many different situations.

Check out more resources in blogs written by Kelly Bielefeld

For Your Information:

Presentation File

https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/147545/Surface%20Learning%20vs%20Deep%20Learning.pdf

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