

A white MacBook Air laptop is open on a wooden table. To its left is a black smartphone. In front of the laptop is a black pen. To the right is a white coffee cup on a saucer. The background is a blurred outdoor setting. The text "Surface Learning vs. Deep Learning: How Technology Can Help Students Think Deeper" is overlaid in the top right corner. A green L-shaped line is positioned on the left side of the image, with one part extending from the top left towards the laptop screen and another part extending from the bottom right towards the text at the bottom of the image.

Surface Learning vs. Deep Learning: How Technology Can Help Students Think Deeper

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How can technology support student learning?

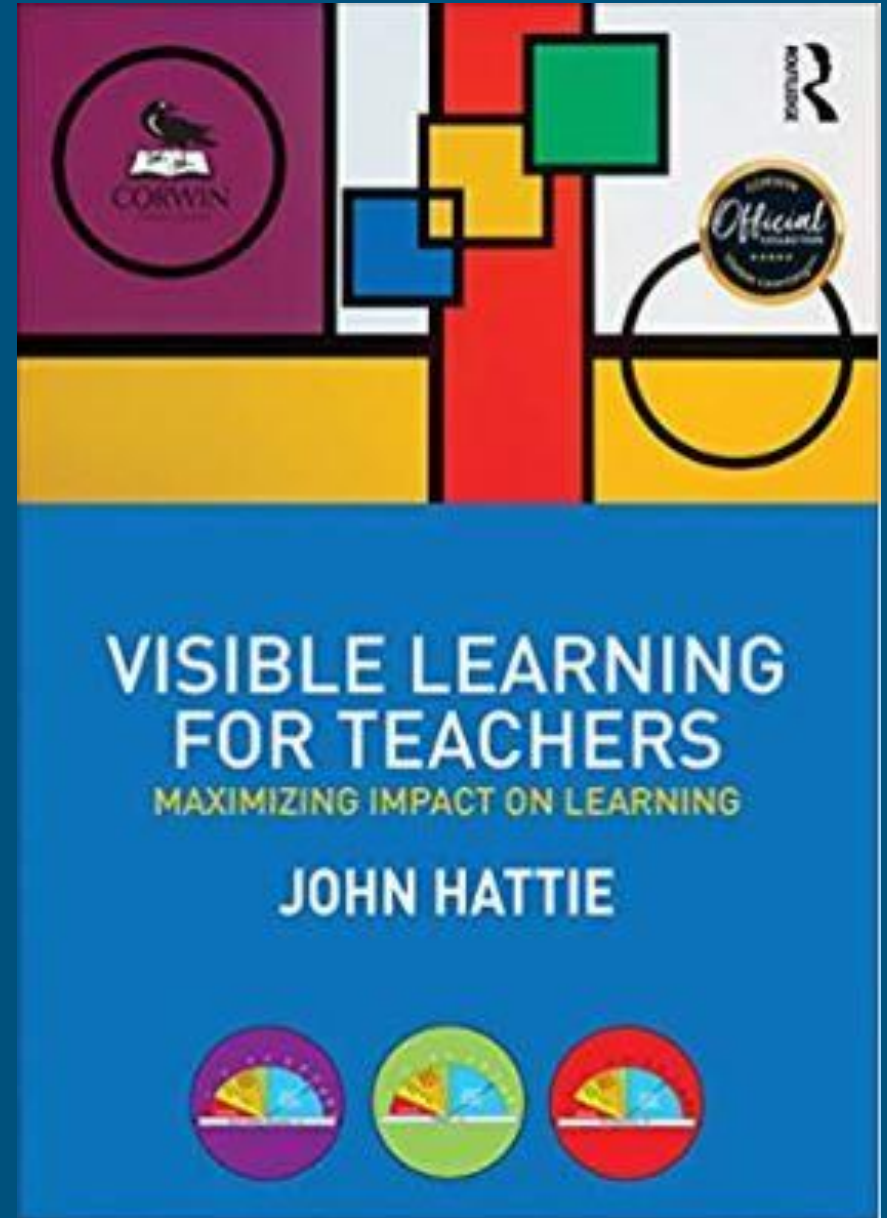
- Is it best for students...does it increase?
 - Engagement
 - Efficiency
 - Deep Learning

Deep Learning

Why do we value deep levels of learning?

Surface v. Deep Learning

- Visible Learning Research (Hattie, 2015)
 - The need for surface learning...
 - Then transfer of learning...
 - In order to create deep learning



Surface Learning

- Surface level learner - or “lower level” learning - is the first two levels on Bloom’s taxonomy
 - Acquiring knowledge or receiving knowledge
 - Demonstrating comprehension or Understanding
- This is critical to learning



Deep Learning

- High levels of Bloom's Taxonomy
 - Analysis
 - Synthesis
 - Creating/Evaluating
 - These are all examples of students taking their surface level knowledge and putting it into practice in more complex situations.



Transfer of Learning

- The application phase or as students begin to “own” the knowledge or skill. They must work with it enough to feel comfortable to move to the deeper levels.
- Students transfer learning from Surface to Deeper Levels.
- This takes practice and time.

Technology can Support All of These

- Surface
- Transfer
- Deep Learning

We can also think of it in terms of an Instructional Model

- Anita Archer
 - “I do”
 - “We do”
 - “You do”
- Opportunities to respond and practice must be imbedded
- Formative Assessment Tools can increase engagement

Surface

- Delivering Instruction
 - Using the [Boxlight Interactive Flat Panel Display](#) for instruction to the class
 - Providing Definitions
 - Tutorials on how to use tools
 - Basic understanding of concepts
- Without this framework, students don't have the ability to transfer knowledge
- ...But we also need to ENGAGE

Transfer

- The tools, terms, and skill become “practicable” by the students
- Knowledge can be used to solve multiple problems
- The students begin to “own” the skill
- Technology:
 - Support multiple practice opportunities
 - Ability to provide corrective feedback
 - Level and challenge on a particular concept

Deep Learning

- Students fully own the skill and can solve new, complex problems with the skill that they have.
- Complexity is manageable.
- Real evidence of critical thinking.
- Technology:
 - Projects that use tools as evidence of learning
 - Analysis of differences – comparing and contrasting
 - Researching (surface) into meaningful context about a topic

Coding Example

- What surface knowledge do students need to code?
- How do we allow them to transfer knowledge?
- What does deep knowledge look like?
- [Coding in Action – Mimio MyBot Solution](#)



Process the Knowledge

- As a participant, you have learned new, “surface level” knowledge about teaching and learning...
- How can you transfer this knowledge into practice tomorrow?
- What does it look like to move to a deep level of learning about this topic?

Boxlight Webinar Series

You can find me at:



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Kelly Bielefeld



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