#digitalstudies

BADGES FOR LEARNING

Whilst planning the new #digitalstudies curriculum for Key Stage 3 i have come up with the following idea for assessment. This is by no means a new idea as a number of people have been either toying with the idea and tried these out as in the classroom. My real inspiration came from my son who loves collecting Liverpool badges and gave me this yesterday



The key principle is that students will be awarded badges when they achieve in #digitalstudies. These will be either physical badges or buttons they can add their to their digital portfolio.At the moment I'm trying to get it clear in my head exactly what for and how they can achieve this but the main areas I'm looking at are as follows

- Achieving their target level overall - school set
- Achieving their target level overall - own target



- Great work using a software package



- Achieving their target level overall in a digital strand
- Great work in one of the digital strand









These of course could be awarded by their teacher but what if a peer feels that a piece of work deserves

a badge? Ive built this into the ICT Feedback form which ALL students will use for AFL of their own and others work.

Ive already played about with some designs and looked at online badge creators but really welcome peoples feedback on this. Either add a comment to the ones I have listed above (insert/comment) or add your ideas below (please add your name / twitter name so i can attribute your idea.

Look forward to your feedback
Cheers
Chris
@infernaldepart

IDEAS FOR BADGES IN DIGITAL STUDIES

@mwclarkson - Doing this digitally means the information is easily recorded == AfL
@jonjwilliams - It would be nice if each student had their own webpage/blog where they could display their badges, great to be able to show/print off for RoA folders etc.
@petejbell - could this be started up in something like Google Apps to make it scalable later? This reminds me of Mozilla's open badges project. Would they get on board/ could you use their existing system?
@camaxwell - could some kind of server be used to verify that badges have been earned? Maybe the badges on a webpage or blog link to a certificate page on a trusted server that contains the name of the badge owner? Maybe I'm cynical that students might steal digital copies of badges they hadn't earned.
@dajbelshaw - I'm unsure why you need to use badges here? It seems like you want to do something around formative assessment, but seeing the 'I am digitally literate' and '6c' badges I'm not so sure about the rationale?

@IaninSheffield - Reading the outline above Chris, suggests the badges are intended as some form of reward system? If that's the case, you might want to check out 'Punished by Rewards' by Alfie Kohn which @JohnMcLear put me on to. Here are my thoughts on that. If on the other hand, badges will be more about recognising achievement and making what has been learned and the skills which have been developed explicit to others, then badges may have something to offer. Earlier posts refer to the Open Badges project; there's a reasonable intro to what they're all about here.
@misterel - reading this I had a flashback to my youth (along time ago now!). There was this red book we had at cubs and scouts which contained all the details of the badges we could work towards and achieve. I think this is a way you could do these badges.http://scouts.org.uk/supportresources/search/?cat=56,134,148 The types of badges are obviously different to the cub and scout ones and aimed at digital literacy, but kids could have the opportunity of choosing badges they would like to achieve. Their google site then becomes a virtual sleeve, where all the badges are 'sewn' on. I like the idea Chris and will no doubt be nicking it in some shape or form in the future. :)

@englandraider - I like this idea! The concept is certainly popular in the video gaming world (xbox achievements and playstation trophies). I am intending to do something similar with our new intake of Year 7 students in September to secure basic digital literacy skills and get all students on a level(ish) playing field after the extreme range of ICT experience they have from various feeder primary schools! The working title is "computer driving license" although I have also considered "passport" since the

objective will be to earn stamps (or badges) a bit like this ("email use badge", "internet search skills badge", etc). No idea at the moment how to award the stamps/badges - I was wondering if there are any moodle plugins that award virtual stamps/badges? Perhaps even a page in the student diary that actually get's stamped?!

@deerwood - There's tremendous potential here. Two observations which I'd like to throw into the mix. I think it is important that the learners know what is required in order to achieve each badge and that they are
seen to be achievable. I know this sounds obvious but it has long been a culture in schools for teachers to 'hand out' rewards; it is important for learners to know they 'achieve' awards by their own efforts and merit (i.e. they are not handed out under the power or 'whim' of a teacher).
I also feel that there needs to be a wide range of badges and not one simple linear progression. That way, students can select which badges to strive for based upon their studies, interests or experience.

@davestacey - I'd been pondering the idea of using badges myself, although I'd taken it in a slightly different direction to you. Picking up on Doug's point above the badges would be for the completion of specific tasks chosen from a wide range of options. I've tried to outline my idea in this blog post - http://blog.mrstacey.org.uk/?p=640

@LSpringett - Still loving the idea behind this and believe that your earlier work in relation to building the badges around levels and then the strands is the way forward. So having half a dozen statements for each strand that then progress through the levels. This way got clear opportunity for progression and a clear structure that can be implemented across whatever portfolio project is being conducted.

@daibarnes: Check this out: http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/badges/badges-criteria - the openbadges google group has some interesting posts about the integrity of badges because some will be issued fairly lightly and others for a lot of work. Therefore, it is important to specify the criteria that earn the badge so others may click on the badge and see the work done. The language used needs to be quite clear but not jump-through-hoop coursework-like stuff.
Key info pasted in:

> Required criteria: All Textbook Review badge holders have:
> * Reviewed the COT textbook reviewer training materials.
> * Reviewed a textbook of at least 100 pages or 5 chapters.
> * Completed most worksheets of the reviews spreadsheet in some detail, rating each of the chapters of the textbook, with some variation in scoring.
> * Provided review comments include positive remarks and constructive suggestions.
> * Have written a prose review that required some editing by the reviews manager.
> * Had their review accepted by College Open Textbooks, Open Doors, Textbook Equity, or other COT Collaborative or Open Doors member organization.
> * Agreed to license the review as CC BY.
> Recommended additional criteria. Many badge-holders have done one or more of the following:
> * Completed the MERLOT reviewer training.
> * Reviewed a long textbook (200+ pages or 10+ chapters) or two small textbooks.
> * Completed all worksheets of the reviews spreadsheet in great detail, rating each of the chapters of the textbook, with substantial variation in scoring.
> * Have written a prose review that required little or no editing by reviews manager.
> * Blogged about the review and/or presented the review at a conference or in a workshop.

@mrstucke: Wrote this in the other doc where Chris & co were coming up with ideas for badges - seems more sensible in here:

*On the assessment side of things I'm loving the idea of badges. I think it's worth considering early on how they'd be set out. Would something like a Gold/Silver/Bronze system work for most topics? Would they want an equivalent NC Level (*shudder*!)? Should they be fairly high level, with a number of learning objectives / success criteria in them? e.g. just below here 5 of the first 6 mainly relate to Data/Spreadsheet. Are some of those elements of what would make a bronze/silver/gold 'Data Handler' or 'Spreadsheeter' badge? And there's a final question from that sentence, would you go 'Data Handler' or 'Spreadsheeter' function or tool based? Maybe worth thinking about what was wrong with the program of study & assessment criteria for old ICT - in particular the fact we struggled to understand some of the language and pupils / parents didn't stand a chance! Need to keep it simple. Sorry bit of a mind dump on this whole idea - it's early days but very exciting!*

I'm thinking of stripping the ICT/DigitalStudies curriculum ideas down to fit what we think our team should be offering in KS3. Then using badges to assess the skills and knowledge. I like the idea of gold/silver/bronze medals. And they *could* be related to old NC levels - but want to avoid this as much as possible. As I said above, I'm determined to come up with something that all stakeholders understand clearly. I really like the look of OpenBadges and the idea of assessment criteria being clearly integrated into them.

An example:

Bronze Researcher: I can use different search engines to find information. I can use search operators. I can spot unreliable websites.

Silver Researcher: In addition to bronze skills I can reference websites using hyperlinks. I have an understanding of copyright and fair use.

Gold Researcher: etc etc



also why did we get added to ts

If your names anonymous squirrel youre fruity




TS
me




IQ
BELOW ZERO