

SESSION NAME: Elementary Science Education

ROOM NUMBER: 203

FACILITATOR: Britney Allen ([@MlleBallen](#))



ATTENDEES INCLUDED:

- [@MmeHibou](#)
- [@MirandaGee10](#)
- Tracey Crystal

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What has been your experience of it?
- How will it look with the new curriculum?
- What are some of your favourite resources?
- What are some of the challenges?

DISCUSSION NOTES:

- What are your experiences/questions with science education?
 - Accountability for learning outcomes is key, and can be a challenge.
 - Project-based learning can take you to amazing places.
 - There are so many cool ideas - what do you give up? How do you balance?
 - Giving people the chance to risk-take is important!
 - We're in a change-over time. How do you evaluate/assess?
 - Your kids have to lead your year.
 - How do you fit it all in?
 - New curriculum
 - How will we match resources to the new curriculum?
 - Will we get everything we need out of it?
 - Where will we head with the new curriculum?
 - How do we make science more accessible?
- Do you do much project-based learning?
 - "It's kind of a throw-away subject."
 - Diversity struggle - how do you get Ss of all levels involved/engaged?
 - Teaching K Ss about human body, but where are the PLOs?
 - "I've written many of my own PLOs over the decades."
- New curriculum
 - Might shut a lot of doors for big group learning? - What if one teacher wants to do it, but not the other?
 - Might let me ignore science if that's not my passion
 - Structure of business has hugely impacted the structure of schools in northern BC
 - Curriculum has gone into business

- Adapt your curriculum to what is going on around you
- What are the skills that we are teaching?
- Autonomy piece is huge
- Passion and interests of Ss and Ts will drive learning
- Who will take the time to give feedback?
- What are some techniques you use?
 - Science Probe textbook
 - Easy-to-do experiments
 - BC-based
 - Field trips
 - Victoria compost centre
 - Goldstream
 - Science Venture workshops
 - UVic Speakers Bureau
 - Learning from community members
 - Seaquarium
 - Ask people! Networking!
 - It comes down to time, though...
 - Bill Nye
 - Online!
 - Do-it-yourself Human Body app
 - [Natural Curiosity manual](#)
- Other ideas:
 - Simple machine dictionaries on iPads
 - Collaboration - teachers with areas of expertise
- What are some of the challenges?
 - Community views
 - Balance: not too much screen time!
 - Time
 - Funding
 - Science is not area of interest/passion for most elementary/middle years teachers

WHAT'S NEXT?:

- Matching resources to new curriculum
- Increase inquiry

RESOURCES:

Link / Resource	Description
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Storify	Storify by Britney Allen
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