

Blended Learning Zones

Blended Learning is an instructional practice that enabled teachers to be in multiple places at once. Where content is both taught and information received both face to face as well as online. This enables students to absorb more content in ways that best meets their needs and on their own time. Below are some examples of how you can arrange your room and begin shifts in instructional practices that can help you implement blended learning in your classroom.

Questions #1 - 15 min: How Do I Build Capacity and Ensure Accountability In Students So They Are More Self Directed?

Question #2 - 15 min: How Will I Engage Students?

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Solo Zone



Solo Zone



The Solo zone is meant to be used for learners that want to sit and learn content from either a menu of recommended sites, videos, articles, and other various resources. Or would like to research a topic using their own resources. It is not unusual for learners to have headphones in to help concentrate.

Videos:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mb2d8E1dZjY>
- <http://ed.ted.com/on/eL1u2FCu>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSkZ_DY1nns&t=6s

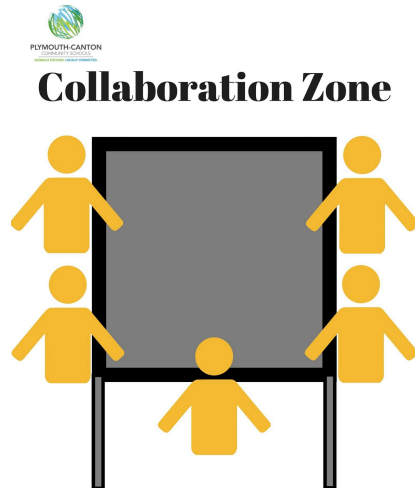
Sites:

- <https://www.edutopia.org/blogs/tag/blended-learning>
- https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2015/06/21/blended-learning-the-great-new-thing-or-the-great-new-hype/?utm_term=.b4a336ff229e
- <https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/2015/01/12/some-benefits-and-drawbacks-of-blended-learning/>

Article/Publications:

- https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=Up_fAmUHaxsC&oi=fnd&pg=PA333&dq=blended+learning&ots=7dLLSsE4JM&sig=6rOdDEeeKoGCwcWV9KnSFbo5634#v=onepage&q=blended%20learning&f=false
- <http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/1708/2890>
- http://ac.els-cdn.com/S0360131515000755/1-s2.0-S0360131515000755-main.pdf?_tid=20289b3e-4794-11e7-95a1-00000aab0f02&acdnt=1496408897_4096b1eb3cf9f826db15a52fe839104d

Collaboration Zone



In the collaboration zone learners work together either through discussion or application to complete a topic or task. Usually in a collaboration zone different learners will have different tasks/jobs (recorder, time-keeper, facilitator, etc.) The PD facilitator or teacher will sometimes act as facilitator in collaboration zone if necessary.

Below are some protocols to increase collaboration:

- https://www.nsrharmony.org/system/files/protocols/final_word_0.pdf
- https://www.nsrharmony.org/system/files/protocols/4_a_text_0.pdf
- https://www.nsrharmony.org/system/files/protocols/jigsaw_0.pdf
- https://www.nsrharmony.org/system/files/protocols/block_party_0.pdf
- https://www.nsrharmony.org/system/files/protocols/3_levels_text_0.pdf

Consulting Zone



In the consulting zone the learner has opportunities to be able to talk to an expert or consultant on a particular topic. For example: You have questions about Microsoft products, and it just so happens that Bill Gates is available to sit down with you 1 on 1 to answer any questions you might have.

Questions to consider asking an expert/consultant:

1. What in your opinion is the most engaging feature/most intriguing aspect of [product/teaching technique]?

2. How will the [product/teaching technique] engage my students in an authentic way?
3. What challenges/barriers are you finding with the [product/teaching technique]?
4. If you were in my position, what would be your initial steps for introducing the [product/teaching technique]?
5. What's the best way to assess both myself and my students on how the [product/teaching technique] has made a positive impact?

Absorb Zone



Absorb Zone



In the absorb zone the learner gets to sit and receive instruction from a facilitator on a particular product, teaching technique, curriculum, etc. This is sometimes referred to as sit and get or sage on the stage and is useful to some learners.

Examples of Tech Tools to use in Absorb Zone

- [Google Slides](#)
- [Prezi](#)
- [Nearpod](#)
- Smartboard/Interactive Whiteboard software
- Document Camera

Assessment/Exit Tickets

Due to the nature of blended learning environments and classrooms it is important to assess what learners have done and learned. This is to ensure that they are being held accountable and for teacher/facilitator to change any future instruction/techniques.

Assessment Tools:

- [Google Forms](#)
- [Nearpod](#)
- [Socrative](#)
- [Poll Everywhere](#)
- [Kahoot](#)

Examples of Questions to Assess in Blended Learning Environment:

1. How did the stational/zone model work for you? Explain?
2. What zone did you attend the majority of the time? Why did you go here?
3. What were some positive aspect to today's learning?

4. What opportunities would have been more beneficial for your learning today?
5. If you could change 1-2 things from today, what would they have been? Why?
6. What did you learn about today?
7. What are your next steps?