

# Relevant & Authentic

Students explore, discuss, and meaningfully construct concepts and relationships in contexts that involve real-world problems and projects that are relevant to the learner.

## Develop and facilitate project-based learning experiences

Strategy	Resources & Strategies
I engage learners and other faculty in co-designing projects that stretch and deepen the learning experience.	<p><b>Collaborate with other faculty members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Schedule time to collaborate and share in your department or PLC</li><li>• <a href="#">Get started collaborating with colleagues</a></li><li>• Use <a href="#">tuning protocols</a> to review unit plans and receive feedback</li></ul> <p><b>Leverage student expertise and interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allow students to create content, not just consume it</li><li>• Create <a href="#">wonder boards or journals</a> to capture questions of students to explore</li><li>• <a href="#">Set up Passion projects</a> (see <a href="#">350 ideas for Passion Projects</a>)</li><li>• Make time for a <a href="#">Genius hour</a></li></ul>
I use collaborative, cross-curricular projects to develop learners' deep understanding of content areas, connections to applications beyond school, and skills to apply	<p><b>Get inspiration from other teachers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Snakes are Born This Way</a> (2nd Grade)</li><li>• <a href="#">PBL Projects to Adapt for Remote Learning</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Wicked Soap Company</a> (high school chemistry)</li><li>• <a href="#">Tiny House Project</a> (elementary school)</li></ul> <p><b>Think about how to leverage the real world</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create a student exhibition to share work with an authentic audience</li><li>• Investigate real-world problems and use design thinking</li></ul>

<p>knowledge in meaningful ways.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage current events to investigate and connect learning to the world</li> <li>• Help students create a student-written weekly newsletter to share updates</li> </ul> <p><b>Integrate ideas and concepts from other subjects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Getting started with interdisciplinary projects</a></li> <li>• Work with other teachers in the building to co-design (see above)</li> </ul>
<p>I emphasize regular student reflection about specific questions that draw out the learning within the project.</p>	<p><b>Reflect with learners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build in daily lesson reflection questions</li> </ul>
<p>I present content-based concepts (both within and across disciplines) through a variety of perspectives in order to engage learners in critical thinking, creativity, transfer, and collaborative problem solving related to authentic local and global issues.</p>	<p><b>Incorporate real world concepts into projects, lessons and activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">CAPS Profession based learning</a> (High School)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Global Goals Projects</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">25+ Virtual Field Trips</a></li> <li>• Create opportunities to debate issues</li> </ul> <p><b>Build skills, not just standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">What skills students building during projects</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">PBL &amp; Common Core Round-Up</a></li> </ul>

## Provide opportunities for anytime/anywhere and real-world learning tied to learning objectives and standards

Strategy	Resources & Strategies
I align out-of-school experiences to the relevant academic competencies or standards, so that students may demonstrate mastery and receive in-school credit based on these out-of-school experiences.	<p><b>Leverage student's existing skills outside of class</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Working to learn, learning to work</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Benefits of sports</a></li> <li>• Ask students to reflect on their skills inside and outside of the classroom incorporating all of the activities they take part in</li> </ul> <p><b>Integrate internships and other activities into class</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Big Picture Learning Internships model</a></li> </ul>
I develop diverse physical and digital environments that maximize learning within, across, and beyond classrooms.	<p><b>Intentionally design your classroom time flexibly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">How Can We Make the Most of our Synchronous and Asynchronous Time</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Design your class schedule flexibly</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Use station rotation</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Design your physical classroom space with flexible seating arrangements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Classroom Eye Candy</a></li> </ul>

I connect students with mentors and internship experiences when possible, that provide real-world learning experiences from experts in their fields.

**Connect students with mentors and internships**

- Connecting students with business mentors
- Set up local internships

**Invite experts into your classroom space**

- [National Parks Activities with National Park Rangers](#)
- [Invite an astronaut](#)
- [Bringing the outside in: 6 tips](#)