Why Collaborative Learning?
Benefits of Collaborative Learning

• Students can clarify and organize their ideas well enough to verbalize them to others.
• Students have opportunities to elaborate on what they have learned.
• Students are exposed to the views of others – views that may reflect a more accurate understanding of the topics under discussion.
• Students discover how people from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds may interpret the world in different but valid ways.
Empirical Evidences (1)

• Introductory Chemistry at a US university
• Peer-led Team Learning
  - Higher retention rate
  - Higher achievement (15% higher in pass rate than a traditional class)
  - Students in minority groups had the largest improvement in pass rates with a collaborative learning approach

Empirical Evidences (2)

- Secondary 1 students in a school in Singapore (n=71)
- Knowledge Forum
  - Enhanced the students' scientific inquiry skills
  - Especially in the area of identifying variables and stating hypothesis.

Empirical Evidences (3)

- Meta-analysis of 10 studies at elementary or secondary levels (3,029 K-12 students)
- Students in collaborative groups do better in achievement tests than those in traditional instruction.

Students in 50th percentile (experimental group)

Students in 50th percentile (control group)

CL Treatment

Traditional instruction

62nd percentile

50th percentile

ESD and Collaborative Learning
Social Media
When social media meets collaborative learning...

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Examples

• Blog: to manage individual portfolio with comments (Teachers can use student blog for performance evaluation)
• Wiki: to collectively document a work progress/collective writing
• Twitter: to encourage conversation in a large lecture
• Skype: to virtually invite experts into class
• Online forum: to encourage discussion beyond classroom
• And many more..
But...
1. Find a right SM for your learning objectives

![Diagram](http://c4lpt.co.uk/smartworkersguide/)

Image source: http://c4lpt.co.uk/smartworkersguide/
2. Do not assume that a social media automatically create social interaction!
3. Social Media can be a distraction.

Image source: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/8455659/Pupils-distracted-by-gadgets-say-teachers.html
4. SM can discourage F2F interaction.
5. Anonymity and Responsibility

@ComfortablySmug

BREAKING: Confirmed flooding on NYSE. The trading floor is flooded under more than 3 feet of water.

Holy cow, this is a right now. http://

#sandy
Tips for Teachers
1. Find a right SM for your learning objectives

Image source: http://c4lpt.co.uk/smartworkersguide/
2. Do not assume that a social media automatically create social interaction!

• Keep monitoring your students’ progress!!!!
• Give your feedback in real time!
• Keep it short and direct.
• Be respectful.
• Thank them for participating.
3. Social Media can be a distraction.

- Make a clear link between lesson and social media.
- Spend time to reach mutual understanding why we are using SM in class teaching and learning.

Image source: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/8455659/Pupils-distracted-by-gadgets-say-teachers.html
4. SM can discourage F2F interaction.

Blend with classroom interaction.

5. Anonymity and Responsibility

- Don’t share secrets and protect your own privacy.
- Be honest.
- Respect copyright laws.
- Critically evaluate information.
- Always keep an eye on signs of cyberbullying.
- Be the first person to admit your mistakes.
- Think about the consequences.
- Don’t neglect your day job.
Practical Tips for Teachers

Facebook

• If you would like to keep your personal profile reserved only for family and friends but still wish to use Facebook with your students and/or colleagues, you can set up a separate profile for this purpose.

• Keep in mind that you have a professional image to uphold as a teacher. Students should also understand that it is important they keep a respectful tone in their interactions with you on Facebook.
It’s your choice!
(And we can help. 😊)
Useful Resources

• Social Media Guidelines for Schools and Teachers
  1) Social Media Guidelines For The State Of NC
  2) Social Media Guidelines DePaul University
  3) Minnetonka Public Schools Social Media Policy
  4) Pottsville Area School District Social Media Policy
  5) Student Code Of Ethics From Vicki Davis
  6) Hotseat mobile learning (Purdue University) http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/research/2010/101013BowenEducause.html
  7) Facebook Open Hours (Stanford University) http://www.facebook.com/stanford?fref=ts
  8) Social Media Classroom: http://socialmediaclassroom.com/
Useful Resources (cont’)

• Twitter for Twitchy Teachers (A common sense guide)
  http://esafety-adviser.com/Resources/Twitter%20for%20Twitchy%20Teachers.pdf
• Steven W. Anderson and Sam Walker (2012), ASCD 2012-Developing Social Media Policies for Schools
  https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1UPdNWEdaCZC41-LJejsCTCeP_BrQcA3S1_e-nmObNgU/edit
• A Teacher's Guide to Using Facebook
• Christine Fisher, Creating Social Media Guidelines for Educators
• SABRINA KIDWAI AND CATHERINE IMPERATORE (2011), “Social Media as an Advocacy Tool”
  https://www.acteonline.org/uploadedFiles/Events/files/SocialMediaAsAdvocacyTool_NPS11.pdf
References


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Kreijns et al. (2003), Computers in Human Behaviour 19, Elsevier Science Ltd. pp.342-343


Seng et. al., Fostering scientific inquiry in schools through science research & CSCL, NIE Singapore (Abstract available on http://www.inderscience.com/info/inarticle.php?artid=6518)
Thank You!!

Q&A

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