Empowering Learners through Project-based Language Learning:

Access this presentation at: https://goo.gl/ev3TOi
Rachel Mamiya Hernández, University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa
Presentation Overview

- Gold Standard PBLL & best practices
- Project Implementation Example
- Want to know more? Additional Resources

NFLRC Fundamentals of PBLL & Intensive Summer Institute 2015
"Renaissance thinkers were creative people, not just those who memorized a large number of disconnected facts. They also thought in terms of projects, not in terms of isolated tasks."

Why PBLL?

What do we want learners to be able to do?

➔ Actively engage with content
➔ Be responsible for own learning
➔ Gain 21st century skills
➔ Think critically
➔ Make a difference
➔ Build confidence
➔ Manage time & work efficiently
➔ Build college, career, & life skills
➔ Communicate effectively

Image Source: BIE 4Cs blog post
Gold Standard PBL

Image Source http://www.bie.org
Empowering Learners

**Purpose** - students are empowered when they understand the **meaning** and **significance** of content.

**Structure** - PBL is empowering when real world skills, tasks, and problems are addressed.

**Design** - scaffold learning and revision processes. Include student voice & choice.

**Use** - scaffold learning and revision processes

Tools for Planning & Organizing your Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Square</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROBLEM, QUESTION, CHALLENGE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRODUCT</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why do kids care?
Implementing PBLL
Projeto Vamos Ler!

Context: College level intermediate Portuguese class
According to UNESCO’s 2012-2015 Round Table on Literacy Action Plan for Brazil, "Teaching children to read and write is still a major challenge", with children living in the North and Northeast of the country having the highest indices of illiteracy. This project seeks to raise awareness around this issue and address it via a literacy campaign and the creation and distribution of books for young readers in poor communities in the state of Bahia in Northeastern Brazil.
Digital Literacy

Essential Competencies of Digital and Media Literacy

1. **ACCESS** Finding and using media and technology tools skillfully and sharing appropriate and relevant information with others

2. **ANALYZE & EVALUATE** Comprehending messages and using critical thinking to analyze message quality, veracity, credibility, and point of view, while considering potential effects or consequences of messages

Hobbs (2010), p. 19
3. **CREATE** Composing or generating content using creativity and confidence in self-expression, with awareness of purpose, audience, and composition techniques

4. **REFLECT** Applying social responsibility and ethical principles to one’s own identity and lived experience, communication behavior and conduct

5. **ACT** Working individually and collaboratively to share knowledge and solve problems in the family, the workplace and the community, and participating as a member of a community at local, regional, national and international levels

Hobbs (2010), p. 19
World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages
Project Sequence

- **Entry event:** Interviews with Teletandem Partners
- **Driving Question:** How can we **engage** and **encourage** young readers in low income communities in Brazil?
- **Interculturality:** **Critical examination** of children’s books, getting to know the community.
- **Putting Learning into Action:** Writing, feedback, and revising. Creating video campaign.
- **Final Product:** Published children’s books delivered to the community.
Interviews via Skype
What makes a good children’s book?

Evaluation Rubric

Collaborative Guidelines
Critical Examination of children’s books with Prof. Sávio

Video Menino Gustavo
Getting to know the community
The Candeal Community

DE TRANSFORMAÇÃO SOCIAL COM OUTRAS ENTIDADES
Writing, feedback & revising

Storybird
Individual Progress Reports
## Relatório de Progresso: Indivíduo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nome</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durante esta semana eu tive os seguintes objetivos...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durante esta semana eu atingi os seguintes objetivos...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Os meus próximos passos são...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sentem-se em volta desta chama, que te conto uma estória antes da cama.
Era uma vez debaixo do sol quente, havia um bosque sem nenhuma gente.
Publishing & fundraising

Fundraising flyer
Video campaign
Delivering books to the community
Centro Municipal de Educação Infantil Virgem de La Almudena.
When you are inspired by some great purpose, some extraordinary project, all your thoughts break their bonds: Your mind transcends limitations, your consciousness expands in every direction, and you find yourself in a new, great and wonderful world. Dormant forces, faculties and talents become alive, and you discover yourself to be a greater person by far than you ever dreamed yourself to be.

--Patanjali
Want more information?

★ Buck Institute for Education - numerous online publications & resources for planning, implementing, and managing PBL(L)
★ National Foreign Language Resource Center (Univ of Hawai’i - Mānoa) - PBLL Site
★ Pebbles - NFLRC Project Repository (Under construction)
Final Thoughts

- Students are motivated to learn & enjoy doing something meaningful, impactful, & creative with the language
- Complete package: language, culture, content
  - Applies learners’ language skills to real world contexts
- Expect road bumps & challenges and work on ways to get past them
- Gold standard (all 8 components) should be our goal, but hitting most of the elements can still be effective
Special Thanks to:

- nflrc
- acbeu Todos falam bem
- PRACATUM
- BIE
- storybird
Thanks, Mahalo, & Obrigada!

Questions/Comments?
Contact:

Rachel: rmamiya@hawaii.edu / Twitter: @raquelitalalaloca
Facebook: Rachel Mamiya Hernandez

Access this presentation at:

https://goo.gl/ev3TOi


Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:
- Presentation template by SlidesCarnival
- Photographs by Unsplash
- Backgrounds by Pixeden