

THE EDUCATOR'S EXTRA

Empowering Teachers | Inspiring Students | Improving Education

7 Tips to Get Started with Project-Based Learning

1. Identify Students' Passions

Students become far more engaged in a project when it is personally meaningful for them - and impactful. Discover what real-life problems or issues students care about and allow them to turn it into a learning experience that aligns with curriculum standards.

2. Focus on One Product

When starting out, a variety of products produced by students may allow for more creativity and a demonstration of understanding, however, assigning the same product allows teachers to practice their PBL strategies in controlled surroundings and students to better their authentic learning skills.

3. Utilize Technology in the Classroom

No need to reinvent the wheel. See what available technology is currently in the classroom and how it can be incorporated into research, experimental learning, and reflection for students. Specific apps can help with timelines, goals, and milestones.

4. Group by Interests & Passions

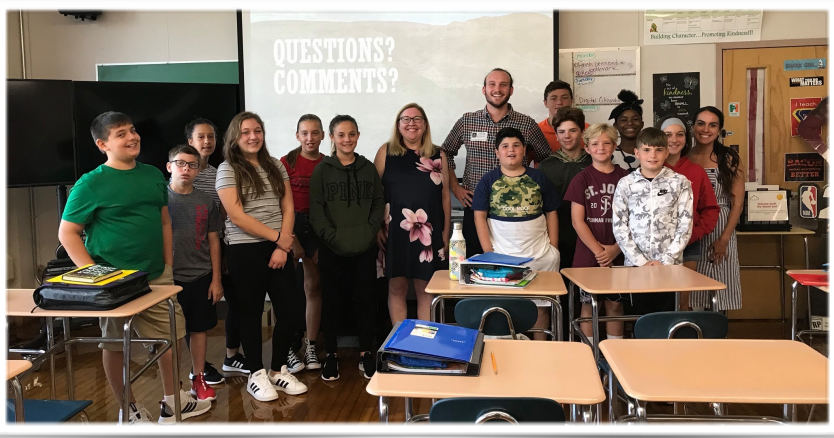
After identifying students' passion, grouping students by these passions and interests makes for deeper connections and collaboration possibilities between peers. Through this method, peer-review and reflection becomes more authentic and impactful.

5. Create Student Buy-in

Project-Based Learning is driven by the students. Let them find the answers they're asking questions about. Giving over the answers easily may turn the project into a lesson versus the experiences of finding the answers with the teacher as a guide.

The Building Cultural Bridges Program is expanding!

Educators of America is happy to announce that we've expanded into several new schools and classrooms in the Western New York area - specifically in Erie, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus counties. The Building Cultural Bridges program has onboarded an additional eight teachers from the Buffalo area as well as six more within Namibia; ranging from the northern part of the country to the Atlantic coastline.



With the expansion of the program, more than 350 students, both American and Namibian, will be participating in the cross-cultural exchange and relationship building measures that the BCB program promotes.

Speaking with a Namibian teacher, this quote was perfect...

"With this program, the world is going to open up for them and that is very important because to make friends everywhere would be wonderful."

To support connecting students to the world beyond their classrooms, visit educatorsusa.org/donate

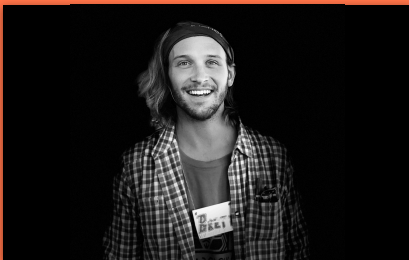
6. Have Learning Outcomes Selected

Identifying one or two learning outcomes for a first-time PBL project will be incredibly helpful. Narrowing the focus of the project and the subject matter will assist in helping what students will be proficient in as they finish the project.

7. Student & Teacher Designed Schedule

Building on top of #5, when students have a say in setting their own schedules that include feedback sessions, peer review, and self-reflection, they feel more accountable. A teacher using PBL becomes more of a coach to the students and engages with them to help meet their own (and teacher approved) timelines.

Get to Know Educators of America



Brett Claydon Director of Business & International Development

Favorite part about Educators of America:

The ability to work with others who want to improve education and opportunities for students - they mold the future and it's exciting to witness how intelligent and ambitious they are. We're just trying our best to help them reach their utmost potential.

Hawaii or Alaska for vacation:

Alaska. Hands down. I'm a big mountain fan and there's just so much wilderness there to explore.

You get to share a meal with 4 individuals, living or dead, who are they?

Good question. Probably JFK, Julia Child, Otis Redding, and Anthony Bourdain. I like chefs, musicians, and the occasional politician.

Most unusual talent?

I like flags a lot, probably too much, and I can name every country's flag. The term for the study of flags is Vexillology. The pronunciation on that word is a fun party trick.

Kids in the Kitchen Mega Raffle

Educators of America is excited to team up with the Joe Lang Foundation to hold the Kids in the Kitchen Mega Raffle. The Kids in the Kitchen Program is a program designed to equip at-risk youth in the Buffalo area with survival skills necessary to pursue academic and career goals. Through the Kids in the Kitchen Program, Western New York at-risk youth learn culinary and entrepreneurial skills that they can use to create meaningful careers and achieve academic goals.

On Saturday, November 23rd at KO Bar & Grill, there will be a Mega Raffle occurring from 7-9PM. Happy hour specials, good food, and great music will accompany a 50/50, a silent auction, gift basket and wine pull raffles. All proceeds will benefit the Kids in the Kitchen Program.

For more information, please [click here](#).



Are you ready for this year's #GivingTuesday?

On Tuesday, December 3rd, the world begins the giving season. An initiative that began in 2012, has grown into a worldwide movement that encourages giving back to causes and issues that matter to all of us. The goal of [#GivingTuesday](#) is to generate a monumental wave of generosity that lasts beyond one day and touches millions of people.

As the world's largest giving movement, it encourages everyone to commit to pro-social, collaborative, and innovative sectors that are striving to do good.


Whether it be a capital contribution, an in-kind donation, or simply your time, being apart of [#GivingTuesday](#) is a significant way to give back to your community and the people in it.

HAVE A BIRTHDAY COMING UP?

Create a Facebook Fundraiser for Educators of America!

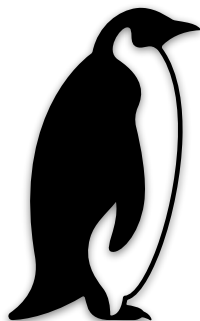


HERE'S HOW:

1. Click  Fundraisers in the left menu of your Newsfeed.
2. Click Raise Money.
3. Select Nonprofit or Charity.
4. Select Educators of America, choose a cover photo and fill in the fundraiser details.
5. Click Create.



THANKYOU



[Click Here to Download an Educators of America Cover Photo!](#)



JOE LANG FOUNDATION
"PUTTING KIDS FIRST"



Kars 4 Kids



Troxell-CDI
TECHNOLOGIES

Orville's
home appliances

TOPS
Friendly Markets

amherst dental group



Google

Shamus
RESTAURANT



"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but
we can build our youth for the future"
- Franklin D. Roosevelt