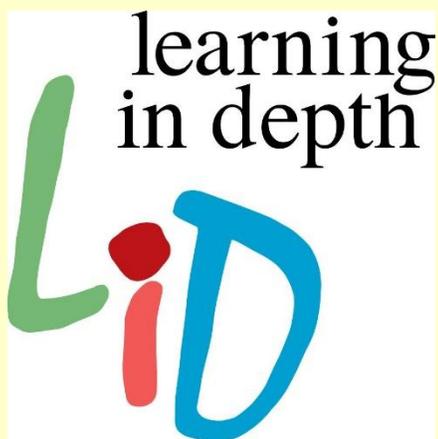


EXTRA, EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Learning in Depth

October, 2018



As mentioned in our previous class newsletters here is more information on **Learning in Depth (LiD)**.

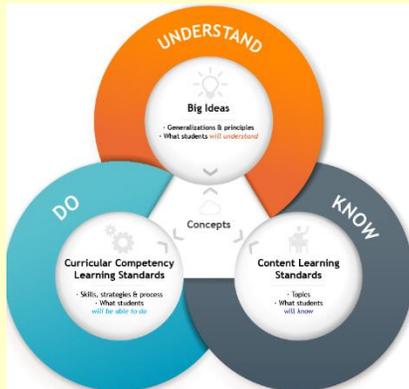
LiD is an idea/concept developed at Simon Fraser University. In essence, it is a 'program' that enables a child to become an 'expert' on a given topic. 'The project proposes, and draws on the research available that suggests this process of learning something in depth has the potential to transform the schooling experience of nearly all children by transforming their relationship to, and understanding of the nature of, knowledge' (*A Brief Guide to Learning In Depth*, taken from <http://www.sfu.ca/~egan/A%20Brief%20Guide%20to%20LiD.pdf>).

How it will begin...

"Learning in Depth" is a simple though radical innovation in curriculum and instruction designed to ensure that all students become experts about something during their school years.

On Wednesday November 7th we will have a "**Pot Luck**" style lunch with parents and guardians invited. We will share good food and conversation. To continue the celebratory spirit the students will then draw their topic from the hat (not unlike the *Sorting Hat*, in the *Harry Potter* series). After each child has received a topic we will look at books about our topics with our adults discover and brainstorm some ideas, questions, and wonderings that we have about our amazing and unique topics.

To continue the learning and excitement the students will be given time each week for **LiD** (currently that time will be on a Wednesday's). During this time students will work & learn about their topic at their own pace and with the guidance of myself and at times possibly some parent volunteers.



“Down by the station,
Early in the morning,
See the little pufferbellies,
All in a row.
See the station master,
Turn the little handle,
Puff, puff, toot, toot,
Off we go.”

By Lee Rick & Slim Gillard



LiD Supports Our New Curriculum...

LiD essentially is *Personalized Learning* which is a key component of our new BC curriculum. *LiD* like our curriculum “focuses on enhancing student engagement in learning and giving students choices — more of a say in what and how they learn — leading to lifelong, self-directed learning.” (BC Ministry of Education, 2018).

From experience the onset of *LiD* looks and sounds messy, until the students become immersed in their topics. Throughout this process, students will be learning how to look for information, in a variety of forms. In addition, they will be using a variety of lenses through which to see their topic; for example, if I was given the topic of *Trains*, I might first look at how many different types of trains there are, which could lead me to ask, ‘how long have trains been a part of our lives? Why where they first invented? Who invented them? Which could lead me to investigate about how steam powers things? I then might suddenly remember a poem I was taught as a youngster; which reminded me of the “*Polar Express*” that we read this past Christmas; and my mind might quickly switch to another classic, “*The Little Engine That Could*” and now I am intrigued and I start looking for more poems, stories and or songs that have trains as their subjects. As you can see the possibilities are endless and as vast as your imagination and inquisitive mind will make it.

What Some Students Have Said...

As a teacher that has been using *LiD* now for 6 consecutive years I am always excited by the endless possibilities that this program brings into our classroom and school. I am even more excited to see how our little inquisitive minds light up as they begin to acquire knowledge on their own topic. The following are comment from two of my previous students about *LiD*;

“I think LiD is very interesting because you are the only one that is doing a topic about something. In the class you are able to tell your classmates about your topic. The best thing about learning in depth is that you’re a professional at that topic.”

“Learning in Depth is definitely something I’m going to be doing for the rest of my life. It’s so exciting because you never know what you will learn. It’s always surprising.”

For more information on this programme go to <http://www.ierg.net/LiD/>

