

Discovering P.L.A.C.E

Nov. 17, 2011 workshop homework

Since Inquiry-Based Learning is a concept that strongly complements Place-Based Education, this 3-step assignment asks you to watch more of the IBL video series, actively practice IBL with your class, and journal about the experience. Please share your journal entry with other Discovering PLACE members, since multiple points of view will benefit the entire group. Here is the breakdown of what our group will accomplish prior to the next workshop, scheduled Jan. 21, 2012 (remember to save the date for our Dec. 14 special dinner event).

1. Watch the video clip at <http://www.learner.org/workshops/inquiry/videos.html?pop=yes&pid=1452#> and answer this question: *What is inquiry and why do it?*
Consider watching it as a team and/or inviting other teachers to watch it with you and talk about what you learned. What concerns do you have about this kind of teaching?

Note: *You may need to click on the rectangular video icon twice in order for it to open.*

2. With your class, choose a time to try the questioning exercise taught by Dorothy McLeer. You may focus it on any subject area. You may use your classroom as the setting, or try the school yard. If you feel comfortable you can try having the students start to answer their own questions. Alternatively you might choose one or two questions to work on as a group. This is not meant to be an extensive project - more of a bit of exploration for you and teaching in this style.
3. After your project, journal your experience by briefly answering the following questions, then send your journal entry to Elizabeth Lowe at ellowe@umflint.edu. Please include the following:
 - What went well for you?
 - What went well for your students?
 - What did you struggle with?
 - What did your students struggle with?
 - How might you do this differently next time?
 - Do you have a photo taken that you'd like to share?

Note: This information will be compiled and shared with the Discovering PLACE cohort of teachers, as well as used to help organize our spring workshops.

Optional: *If you'd like your experience posted to share publicly on our blog (<http://blogs.umflint.edu/qlsi>), please indicate this in your e-mail. If you are including a photo for the blog, please be sure any students in the photo have consent forms signed by their parents (these forms are on the flash drive in your binder).*