Teen Programming With Purpose: Connected Learning

Presented by

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Today's Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Introduction to Connected Learning
3. Theory into Practice
4. Feedback and Reflections

Training Goals

Participants will:

- Analyze their approach to teens and teen programs
- Gain a greater understanding of Connected Learning
- Be able to apply Connected Learning principles to create intentional and relevant programs
- Learn about relevant resources on Connected Learning

Welcome and Introductions

What's your name and job title?

What library are you with?

What is one word that describes you as a teenager?

Strolling through the Ages: A Padlet Activity

As your 6th grade self:
- How do you feel about school?
- What do you like to read?
- What is your favorite thing to do after-school?
- Who influences you the most?

How about your 8th grade self?

Your 12th grade self?

Strolling Through the Ages – Padlet Activity

6th Grade

8th Grade

12th Grade

What is Connected Learning

Definition
According to the Connected Learning Alliance, "connected learning combines personal interests, supportive relationships, and opportunities.

It is learning in an age of abundant access to information and social connection that embraces the diverse backgrounds and interests of all young people."

Source: Connected Learning Alliance
https://clalliance.org/about-connected-learning/

Elements of Connected Learning
Connects personal interests to meaningful relationships and real-world opportunities

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Connected Learning: The Power of Making Learning Relevant

Six Principles of Connected Learning

- **Interest-Powered**

  Research has repeatedly shown that when the topic is personally interesting and relevant, learners achieve much higher-order learning outcomes.

- **Production Centered**

  Connected learning prizes the learning that comes from actively producing, creating, experimenting and designing because it promotes skills and dispositions for lifelong learning and for making meaningful contributions to today's rapidly changing work and social conditions.

- **Peer Supported**

  Connected learning thrives in a socially meaningful and knowledge-rich ecology of ongoing participation, self-expression and recognition.

- **Shared Purpose**

  Today's social media and web-based communities provide opportunities for caring adults, teachers, parents, learners and their peers to share interests and contribute to a common purpose.

- **Academically Oriented**

  When academic studies and institutions draw from and connect to young people's peer culture, communities, and interest-driven pursuits, learners flourish and realize their true potential.

- **Openly-Networked**

  Connected learning environments link learning in school, home, and community because learners achieve best when their learning is reinforced and supported in multiple settings.
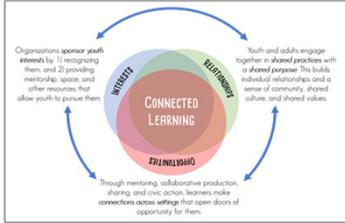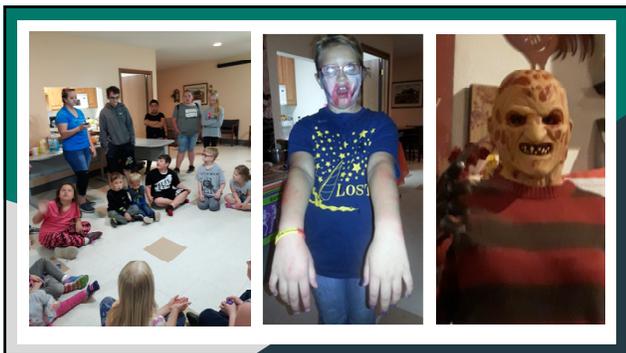
What is Connected Learning?

FIGURE 1. The Connected Learning Framework

Theory into Practice

Donna Morgan, Branch Manager
Pulaski County Library – Crocker Branch
Zombie Walk and Haunted House

Theory into Practice

- **What do you currently do at your library that integrates connected learning into teen programming?**

- **What big idea (programming or interactions) could you try to (better) integrate connected learning into teen programming?**

What are YOUR next steps?

- How to use Connected Learning in evaluating your programs…
  - ❑ Interactions with teens
  - ❑ Building new programming at your library
  - ❑ Justifying what you already do
  - ❑ What do teens really need from their library?
  - ❑ Self-assessment
- How to use Connected Learning in community engagement…
  - ❑ Reaching out to schools
  - ❑ Finding who works with teens and how to partner together
  - ❑ What do teens really need from their community?

Resources

Connected Lib (https://connectedlib.github.io/):
Helping Librarians Use Digital Media to Make Learning Connections with Youth

CLX Connected Learning Guide (https://chicagolx.org/resources/connected-learning-guide):
Translates Research into an Easy-to-Use Reference for Youth-Serving Professionals

Cultivating Connected Learning: Library Programs for Youth
by Megan E. Barrett and Rebecca J. Ranallo

Available in the Missouri State Library's Collection
027.626 B274

Feedback

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Please take the survey! The link is in chat!!