

Lesson 2: Brainstorming an Integrated Project

In this lesson, participants will determine the structure of their team's integrated project.

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Introduction

In this lesson, participants (in this case grades 7-12 academic and CTE teachers in teams of 2-4) will brainstorm their ideas for an integrated project in teams and share their ideas with the group.

Resources and Materials

- Internet access
- Account in CTE Online (www.cteonline.org)
- Laptop computer
- Google Slides presentation: **Creating Integrated Instruction**
- Quick Guide handout: **Planning an Integrated Project**
- **The Four Key Elements of an Integrated Project Rubric**
- Online application **Padlet**
- Presentation screen
- Adhesive notes

Lesson Times

2 hours: 120 minutes

Standards and Objectives

Standards

California's 2013 CTE Standards

- **CTE.ECDFS.C.10.2** Demonstrate the appropriate use of current and emerging technology to develop instructional materials and support learning.
- **CTE.ECDFS.C.7.6** Practice using teaching strategies that promote student learning, critical thinking, and problem solving

Related Instructional Objectives (SWBAT...)

- Review the process for developing a project.
- Explore the five key elements to brainstorming an integrated project using the Project Planning handout.
- Determine an integrated project including its title, subjects, overview, and culminating assignment.
- Share integrated project ideas with the group using the online application "Padlet."
- Receive feedback on a project ideas using a rubric.

Activities in this Lesson

Review the Projects

Hooks / Set

Put up **Slide 14** from the slide presentation **Creating Integrated Instruction**.

Ask 3-4 participants to share out a project that they found in the CTE Online website that they found interesting or engaging. The key elements to an integrated project should be reviewed for each project shared, which include:

- What was the authentic problem or “Essential Question?”
- What were the connection(s) of each subject area to the authentic problem or “Essential Question?”
- What were the links to careers and/or connections to the “real world?”
- What was the culminating assessment that allows students to show what they've learned (make a product, solve a problem, forge a community connection)?

Resources and Materials

- [Creating Integrated Instruction](#)

Brainstorming your Project

Guided Practice

Teamwork Time!

Say to participants: It's time for you to gather together in your teams and choose your project! Arm yourselves with the handout **Planning an Integrated Project**, adhesive notes, pens or pencils, and (most importantly) an open mind.

Walk through the steps using **slides 15 and 16** (summarized below):

Step 1.

- What course/content does each teacher wish to focus on in the Project?
- Each teacher should use Post-it Notes to write down the main topics that they teach in their class throughout the year. For example, the Biology teacher might have a list that includes Cells, DNA, and Genetics.
- After completing their lists, teachers will share out their Post-it Notes to their Team.

Step 2.

- What natural connections are there across these content areas that could support a common Project?
- Connections could include historical or current events, local issues, or a product that students could design, develop, or create.
- As a group, make a list of possible connections.
- Is there a project idea that could result from any of these suggestions? Write it down!

Step 3.

- Using a project idea from the last step, is there an authentic or open-ended problem that students could be asked to solve?
- Problems could include statements that begin with, “How can we...”; “Why does...”; “What if...”; “Is it true that...”?
- Teams may need to circle back to the last step until a project idea paired with a problem is selected.

Step 4.

Consider these final thoughts as a group:

- What could be the culminating assessment piece? (It should tie back to the original problem students are trying to solve.)
- What skills will students to obtain? (Academic skills, 21st Century skills, etc.)
- Are there links to careers or the “real world”?

Provide participants with 45 minutes to determine their project ideas using the handout pages 2-3.

Resources and Materials

- [Planning an Integrated Project](#)

Share your Project Ideas

Check Understanding

Teacher Preparation:

You will need to set up a **Padlet** page for participants to use to share their project ideas.

- Go to www.padlet.com and sign up for a free account.
- Once you are logged in, select "New Padlet."
- Click on the gears on the right side of the page to Modify this Padlet.
- Create a title (such as "Sharing Your Project Ideas") and a description (such as "Briefly describe your team's Project. Include Title, subjects, and overview").
- You can change the Wallpaper, Layout, and Privacy to fit your needs.
- Click on the Link icon to grab the URL to share with your participants.

Procedure

Tell participants that each team will share their integrated projects ideas with the group using the online application **Padlet**.

Show slide 17 and say: Now you will share the project idea that your Team came up with.

- Go to the Padlet page link (share the link for your Padlet)
- Double click anywhere on the Padlet page to start writing a note
- Include in your note the following: Your Team's project title, the subjects, a brief overview, and the culminating assignment

Provide participants with 15-20 minutes to post their ideas.

Then, have each Team stand up and talk about their project as the rest of the group looks at their post on the Padlet page. You may wish to project the Padlet page on the screen as well.

Walk and Talk

Closure

Provide participants 10 minutes to get up and meet with other groups to ask questions about their process for determining their group projects.

During this time, Team Leads will view their Team's project ideas on the Padlet page and use the Google Forms **The Four Key Elements of an Integrated Project Rubric** in order to provide feedback on each Team's project.

- Team Lead will complete a Google Form for each Team's Project.
- Team Lead can then share the rubric results with each team.

Resources and Materials

- [The Four Key Elements of an Integrated Project Rubric](#)

Summative Assessment

Assessment Types: Observations, Projects, Rubrics

Performance Objective 3: Each team of participants will share their integrated project idea with the group by inputting their ideas into the online Padlet page and accurately identifying all five elements of integrated instruction for their project with 100% accuracy.