

# Readers, Writers, Citizens: Principles and Practices of Digital Literacy

## What it means to be literate continues to evolve...

All while teachers continue to wonder how best to teach reading and writing in an era of Connected Learning. Based on work with the National Writing Project, we discuss practices that hold promise as we develop understandings of what it means to read and write digitally, create spaces for connected learning in our schools, and extend assessment practices that account for the complexities of a digital world.

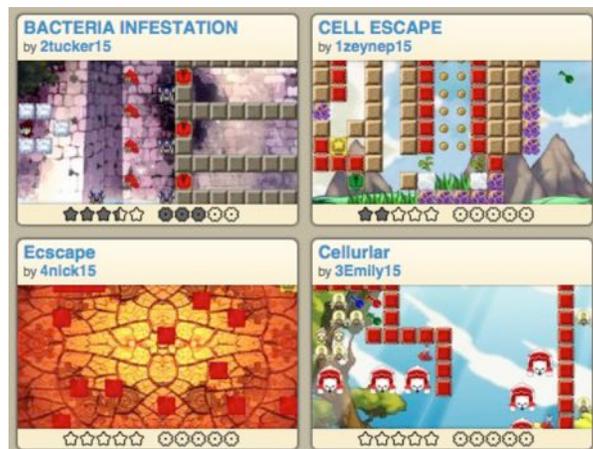


NWP teacher-leaders study and share effective practices that enhance student writing and learning, work collaboratively with other educators, design resources, and take on new roles in effecting positive change.

### Video Game Design

Kevin Hodgson  
@dogtrax

Connected Learning Principles center on authentic student engagement for real purpose. Bringing the element of video game design in the classroom, in partnership with writing and science, moves students from consumers of other people's content into the role of producers of their own work. Video games have the potential to bring storytelling, digital literacy, design, and publication to the forefront of learning.

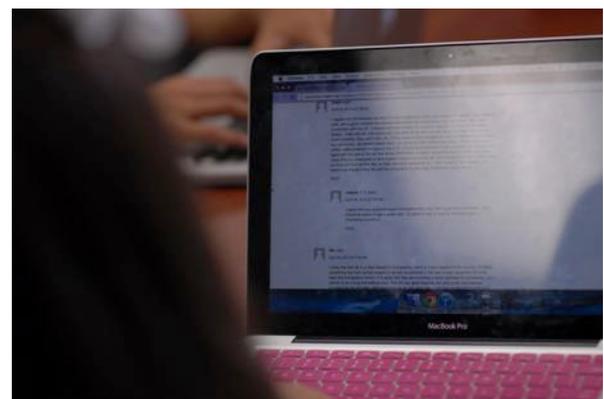


Sixth Grade Cell Games via Gamestar Mechanic

### #DoNow

Janelle Bence  
@Janelle

It begins with a provocative prompt involving real issues, challenging learners to step outside of themselves and their immediate community. It provides valuable resources: articles, podcasts, videos, purposeful media to inform the audience in seeing multiple perspectives of the topic. It engages learners to participate in online civic discourse via blog and Twitter. It invites our youth to create powerful media to contribute to tough discussion. It empowers voice while encouraging us to listen to one another. It is QED EdSpace's #DoNow.



NTH@C Rookies Contributing to Online Civic Discourse

## Digital ID Project

Gail Desler  
@GailDesler

To thrive in a connected learning environment, students need to be grounded in what it means to be a fully engaged citizen and to understand that their (online) actions matter. The Digital ID project supports students in developing a clear sense of both their digital rights and digital responsibilities as they develop strategies to:

- cross the line from “bystander” to “upstander”
- develop and maintain a positive digital footprint
- respect intellectual property of others
- protect their online privacy

<http://digital-id.wikispaces.com>



Digital ID image created by Kathleen Watt



## Connected Reading: Apps and Approaches for Digital Texts

Troy Hicks  
@hickstro

As we adopt smartphones and tablets for 1:1 instruction, we need to review our efforts at comprehension instruction for all kinds of digital texts. Based on a survey of over 800 adolescents, we will discuss principles of "Connected Reading" and how we can adapt existing comprehension strategies in digital spaces, as well as explore new opportunities for finding, managing, and reflecting on digital texts.

<http://connectedreading.wikispaces.com>

Image CC Licensed from Mike Licht



[www.nwp.org](http://www.nwp.org)

Through professional development opportunities, partnerships, and a robust online presence, the National Writing Project shares resources for digital literacy and learning with educators around the world.



[digitalis.nwp.org](http://digitalis.nwp.org)

The NWP Digital Is website is an emerging and open knowledge base created and curated by its community of members. We gather resources, collections, reflections, inquiries, and stories about what it means to learn and teach writing in our increasingly digital and interconnected world.



[educatorinnovator.org](http://educatorinnovator.org)

Educator Innovator provides an online "meet-up" for educators who are re-imagining learning. Educator Innovator is both a blog and a growing community of educators, partners and supporters. If we want to educate a generation of young people to be innovators — to create, build, design, and use their talents to improve their world — we need to value the creative capacity in the mentors and teachers who support them.