Assignment 1 part B   George Knight

Giving Step by Step Instructions

Big Picture: Using language in creative and playful ways helps us to understand how language works

Comprehend and connect: Oral, written and visual elements can be combined

Context: Writing Processes (developing basic revising, editing, and proofreading strategies, and identifying an audience)

Traditionally, I have demonstrated how to make a peanut butter and jam sandwich to teach how to give step by step instructions. I would make the sandwich with the help of my grade 3 students. I would ask the students what I do first, second, next, after that, and finally so that students learn the words that help transition from one step to another. "Scoop out some butter and put it on the bread", however, might have me scooping out the butter with my hand and plopping the butter on the loaf of bread. Students are then given the assignment of writing the step by step instructions on making a peanut butter and jam sandwich. The students then brainstorm the vocabulary that they will need. Everything part of this lesson is very traditional. The lesson takes 45 minutes to 60 minutes to complete and requires a demonstration, whiteboard, paper and pencil.

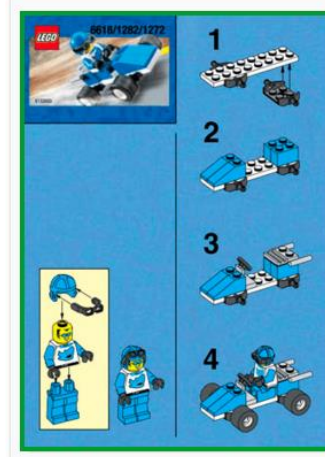## How can I teach the same skills using mLearning to enhance learning?

Materials needed: 15 iPad minis, camera on iPad, lots of Lego, and book creator

Learning Outcomes: Same

Students: Same grade 3 class

In this new lesson the same learning outcomes will be achieved. Instead of demonstrating how to make a sandwich, the students will make a small Lego project and show the step by step instructions.

Content: Student will look at the various instructions that are available through the Lego website. Below is an example of a car that can be built out of simple Lego pieces.

[Blue Racer](#)[i]

Grade 3 students will then use the Lego provided and build a simple Lego project.

Capture: Using the built in camera on the iPad mini and the [Book Creator app](#)[ii], students will create their own book showing step by step how their creation is made. Students simply take a picture and add it to their book.

Compute: The pictures can be resized and easily moved around the page. Students will then add text to each step of the project. The spell check will help students spell words correctly.

Communicate: Once students have completed the book of instructions, they will then record those instructions on each page using the Book Creator app. The reader of the book can listen to the book, read the text, and turn the pages.

Finally, the students will ask their buddies in Kindergarten to see if they can build their creations using their instructions.

Comparing the two lessons

Both lessons, making a peanut butter and jam sandwich and making a Lego project, are similar as they teach the same skills. Using mLearning has many advantages as shown in the table below.

Advantages of using mLearning for the "Giving Step by Step Instruction" lesson

Writing Processes	Peanut Butter and Jam	Lego Project
Basic revising	Not easy to move text around or add lines	Easy to move text around or add lines
Editing	Not easy to erase or add text Using teacher to help spell	Simple to delete or add text Spell check to help in spelling
Proofreading strategies	Students often miss basic proofreading mistakes	Recording and listening to their recording may help the proofreading (Kindergarten will proofread too… proof-listen)
Identifying an audience	No audience (personal or teacher)	Kindergarten class will be an excellent audience
Fun	The demo will be fun, but the writing might not be	Students will enjoy the lesson from start to finish
Publish work	Students would have to put in more time and effort to publish	The work is ready to publish when the assignment is completed.
Preparation time	Many materials and clean up	Just Lego and iPads
Environment	Need to use paper	Paper free
Working independently	Teacher to support all steps	Students work independently
Production level	Low to medium production	High production level
Work satisfaction	Satisfied with their work	Proud of their work

Although the same skills can be learned using both lessons, the advantages of using mLearning and the Lego project are too numerous to ignore.

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[i] Lego retrieved from https://wwwsecure.us.lego.com/en-us/service/buildinginstructions/search#?search&combined=10000-20009%3B2000

[ii] Book Creator retrieved from https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/book-creator-free-make-books/id661166101?mt=8