

WHY PROJECT-BASED LEARNING WORKS FOR STUDENTS



Results from the Speak Up Research Project



WHAT IS PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

Project-based learning (PBL) is a teaching method in which students work on a project over an extended period of time that engages them in solving a real-world problem or answering a complex question. As a result, students develop deep content knowledge. They demonstrate their knowledge and skills by developing a public product or presentation for a real audience.

© PBLWorks 2020

68% OF K-12 SCHOOLS HAVE IMPLEMENTED PBL WITHIN AT LEAST SOME OF THEIR CLASSROOMS.



SCHOOL LEADERS

WHAT SCHOOL PRINCIPALS SAY ABOUT PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

Principals say PBL increases student engagement:

- 69% Increased enthusiasm for schoolwork
- 54% Find purpose in learning process
- 48% More likely to attend school

Principals say PBL supports content knowledge acquisition:

- 81% Ability to apply knowledge to practical problems
- 63% Address academic standards
- 56% Stronger understanding of content being studied



Principals say PBL develops college and career ready skills:

- 76% Collaboration and teamwork skills
- 75% Critical thinking and problem solving skills
- 70% Creativity skills



TEACHERS

WHAT TEACHERS SAY ABOUT PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

"My students would benefit from PBL experiences in school."

All teachers 77%

K-2 teachers	74%	English teachers	85%
Gr 3-5 teachers	83%	Math teachers	71%
Gr 6-8 teachers	80%	Science teachers	81%
Gr 9-12 teachers	78%	History teachers	79%

"This is why PBL is so appealing to today's students"

- 71% Students can design their own projects and work process
- 65% Students get to work on real world problems
- 50% Projects tackle issues students care about
- 63% Projects take advantage of students' individual strengths
- 55% Students can work with classmates collaboratively on the projects

PARENTS

WHAT PARENTS SAY ABOUT PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

62%

of parents say project-based learning is the best way for their child to develop the right skills they will need for future success.

Parents say PBL prepares their child for future success through:

- 75% Authentic problem-solving experiences around real world issues
- 62% Collaborations with classmates on projects that develop workplace skills
- 53% Engagements with the local community on projects to solve civic problems

