

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING

WHAT IS PBL?

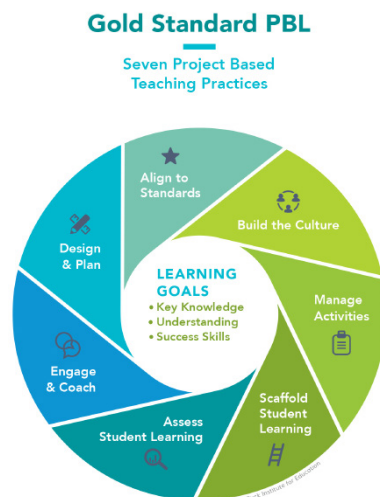
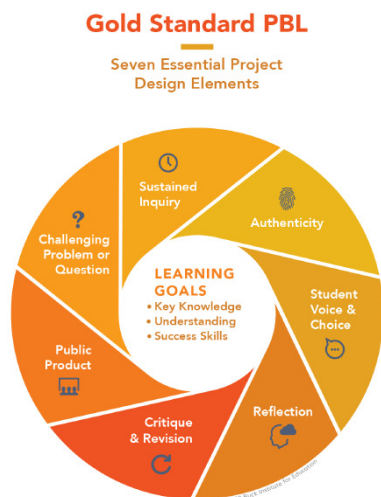
In Project Based Learning, teachers make learning come alive for students. Students work on a project over an extended period of time – [from a month to a semester] – that engages them in solving a real-world problem or answering a complex question. They demonstrate their knowledge and skills by creating a public product or presentation for a real audience.

As a result, students develop deep content knowledge as well as critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication skills. Project Based Learning unleashes a contagious, creative energy among students and teachers.

THE GOLD STANDARD FOR HIGH-QUALITY PBL

To help ensure your students are getting the main course and are engaging in quality Project Based Learning, PBLWorks promotes a research-based model for “Gold Standard PBL.” The Gold Standard PBL model encompasses two useful guides for educators:

1. Seven Essential Project Design Elements provide a framework for developing high quality projects for your classroom, and
2. Seven Project Based Teaching Practices help teachers, schools, and organizations measure, calibrate, and improve their practice.



BUCK INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION
PBLworks

Page Source:
Bucks Institute for Education:
pblworks.org/what-is-pbl

How Does PBL Differ from “Doing a Project”?

PBL is becoming widely used in schools and other educational settings, with different varieties being practiced. However, there are key characteristics that differentiate “doing a project” from engaging in rigorous Project Based Learning.

We find it helpful to distinguish a “dessert project” - a short, intellectually-light project served up after the teacher covers the content of a unit in the usual way - from a “main course” project, in which the project is the unit. In Project Based Learning, the project is the vehicle for teaching the important knowledge and skills student need to learn. The project contains and frames curriculum and instruction.

In contrast to dessert projects, PBL requires critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and various forms of communication. To answer a Driving Question and create high-quality work, students need to do much more than remember information. They need to use higher-order thinking skills and learn to work as a team.

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING (CONT'D)

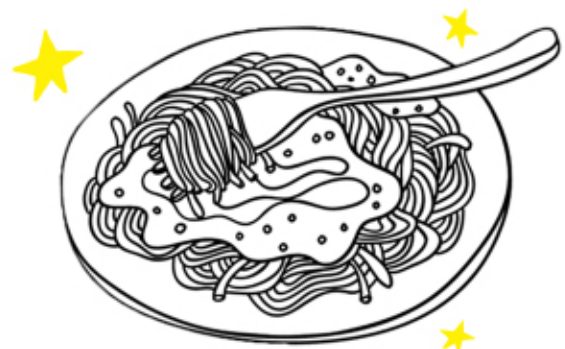
TOP 10 REASONS WHY CLARIDEN EXCELS AT PBL

1. Clariden follows the Buck Institute's Gold Standard when developing and implementing our projects.
2. Projects are developed to meet and exceed Texas State Standards as well as meet all elements of the required Gold Standard for PBL.
3. Projects span a length of time (4-12 weeks). This allows for a greater level of understanding – mastery of concepts and an in-depth understanding of how concepts apply to real world problems.
4. Clariden's projects are enhanced by field study and travel.
5. Clariden's projects are designed to allow for creativity, collaboration and for students to have choice and ownership of their learning.
6. Clariden's learning environment is designed to promote student voice. Students learn to use their voice to state what they know, what they've learned and how to present in a manner that reflects their knowledge of content and concepts and their ability to problem solve.
7. Clariden students gain knowledge from experts and mentors.
8. Project work is integrated with concepts learned in content time. This reinforces learning and allows for further exploration.
9. Clariden designs projects that challenge students to think about and create items that they may have previously had no experience with. For example: rockets, robots, the rain forest, rovers, Texas ecosystems, roller coasters, hatching of baby chicks, etc.
10. Clariden students are actively engaged in their learning and are happy to be at school and most importantly – happy and eager to learn.

AT CLARIDEN, YOU GET THE WHOLE MEAL!



DESSERT
"DOING A PROJECT"



MAIN COURSE
PROJECT BASED LEARNING

Image Source: Bucks Institute for Education www.pblworks.org/doing-project-vs-project-based-learning