

# Is a **LOUD** Classroom a Bad Classroom ?

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## To think about:

If a principal walks into a classroom that sounds loud, would it make you look bad?

## A chatty classroom can mean:

- Interaction
- Collaboration
- Creativity at work
- Students engaging in Project Based Learning (PBL)



## What is Project Based Learning (PBL)?

- Method of delivering student-centered instruction
- Is worked on for an extended period of time
- Students work together to solve real-world problems by deciding a goal and designing the project
- Teacher assists students by guiding the project forward

## Perks of Project Based Learning

- Connects well with science, but also many other subjects
- Research says students enjoy PBL more than traditional projects
- Students always share and present their final products
- Students develop real-world problem-solving skills
- Students work collaboratively with one another
- Driving questions gives students more freedom of choice and creativity to explore diverse answers



## PBL vs. Traditional Projects

| Traditional  | PBL   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ About the product</li><li>○ Teacher-directed</li><li>○ One goal for all projects</li><li>○ Lack of usefulness for real world</li><li>○ Can be done alone</li><li>○ Project reflects previous learned material</li><li>○ Products are mostly given to the teacher</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ About the learning process</li><li>○ Teacher-facilitated</li><li>○ Student choices decide the outcome</li><li>○ Connects to the real world</li><li>○ Needs collaboration with other students</li><li>○ Learning occurs throughout the project</li><li>○ Products are presented to an audience</li></ul> |

### Steps to Success:

- 1) Create broad topics of interest for students
- 2) Find the main idea that is of most interest and detailed to students
- 3) Use driving questions, formative assessment, and organize student roles
- 4) Using the student's skills and creativity, assist in the brainstorming process of what they can do to express findings
- 5) Organize obtaining an audience

Please check out our website for more information:

<https://pbltcnj.weebly.com/>

Notes:

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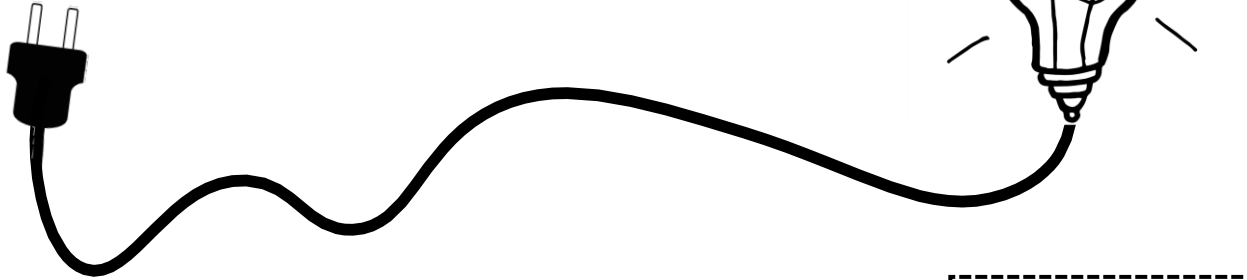
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# Students Taking Ownership:

## Empowering Teaching with Driving Questions



### What does it mean for students to take ownership?

- Choices in their learning
- Leadership opportunities
- Accountability - among both peers and the teacher
- Responsibility for their learning

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### What is Project Based Learning (PBL)?

- Method of delivering student-centered instruction
- Allows students to work together to solve real-world problems
- Learning occurs through research and design approaches
- Provides students with hands-on experiences, encouraging creativity

### How is PBL different from just a traditional class project?

- Provides opportunities for students to have a voice and a choice!

### What is a driving question?

- Topic for each PBL project
- Are engaging and open ended, allowing for student interpretation and variety on their end product
- Are easily aligned to learning goals

### Encouraging Real World Connections

- Real world problems are frequently at the heart of driving questions
- PBL fosters 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills:
  - Collaboration
  - Decision making
  - Integrative (cross-curriculum) thinking
  - Research
  - Technology

## Crafting a Driving Question

- Engaging for students
- Must be relevant, clear, and hook student
- Has to be open ended with diverse answers
- Could connect to a real-world problem, debatable issue, or charge for action

## Traditional vs. Driving Question Examples

| <b>Traditional Questions</b>   | <b>Driving Questions</b>   |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ What are the components of a garage sale?</li><li>○ Compare and contrast popular apps from the Apple/Android app store.</li><li>○ Why are there aphids in the garden?</li><li>○ Why is there pollution in our town lake?</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ How can we plan an effective garage sale?</li><li>○ If you were to make a new app, what would it be and look like?</li><li>○ What should we do about the aphids in the garden?</li><li>○ How can we stop the pollution in our town lake?</li></ul> |

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