

# Conversations on Quality: A Symposium on K-12 Online Learning

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation



## The Practical Case for Quality: The Teacher and Student Perspective

Jenna Winter  
Dominic Griff  
Mitch Leffler (ELA)  
Bellevue School District

Royce Le  
Katie McConville  
Dana Dyer (Biology)  
Highline School District

Paul Teske, Katie Van Horne & Philip Bell  
Educurious, University of Washington



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# Educurious Next Gen Courses & Units

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learning that connects

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**Educurious™ is on a mission to reduce our nation's high school dropout rates.** Our project-based curriculum connects students to real issues they care about and equips them with the lifelong learning skills for success. Our courses deliver on Common Core Standards via our web platform, which fosters collaboration among students, teachers and our global network of real-world Experts. Together, we're creating the 21st-century education that our kids and our country need to thrive in a fast-changing world. **Join us.**

**How can we keep kids engaged in school?**  
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**Meet Educurious**  
Learn more about how we're connecting high school students to success.  
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**Join the Educurious Expert Network**  
Connect with students to share your passion, expand their options and change lives. Our network makes it easy.  
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**Good News for High Schools**  
Our curriculum is designed to meet the Common Core Standards and the Framework for Next Generation Science Standards and is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.  
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- Engages students in relevant, authentic learning and projects
- Leverages principles of how and why people learn
- Uses a competency-focused, learner-centered technology platform
- Connects students with network of experts and professionals

# Contemporary, Relevant Projects

How do I get people to pay attention to my opinions?

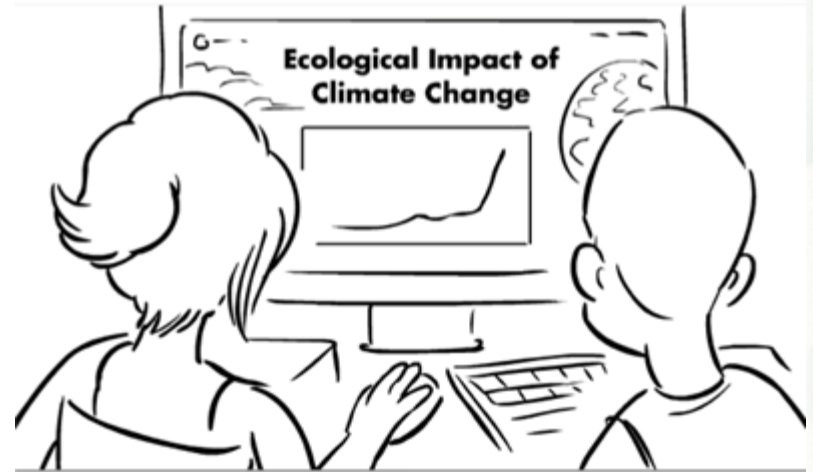
**IMPORTANT**  
**Opinions**



How do infectious diseases constantly outsmart us and continue to threaten human populations around the globe?

**What**  
**happened to**  
**Edgar Allan**  
**Poe?**

How can I protect important ecosystems from the impacts of climate change?



# Social Learning Platform, Tools & Badges

The screenshot shows the educurious social learning platform interface. At the top, the logo "educurious" is on the left, and user navigation links "welcome back User", "admin", "people", and "sign out" are on the right. Below the logo is a navigation bar with icons for Home, Me, People, Community, Media, Messages, and Store, along with a search box. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- updates:** 2 announcements, 3 new messages.
- recent media:** 4 blog posts, 11 photos, 3 videos, 1 game, 3 sounds, 6 graphics, 2 documents.
- friends (31):** Three profile icons.
- trailing (56):** Four profile icons.
- leaderboard:** 1 Erika Williams (12,000 RP), 2 Ben Larson (11,000 RP), 3 Andy Demetrios.

The central profile area for Erika Williams includes a profile picture, name, and tabs for Profile, Blog, Portfolio, Groups, and Events. Below this is an "Activity Feed" section with tabs for friends, trailing, and groups. A post shows "I'm Making Websites" with a dropdown menu. The activity feed entry reads: "Erika Williams is validating websites. 9:13 am on October 21, 2010" with a photo of a field at sunset.

The "Featured Media" section has tabs for blog, photo, video, game, sound, graphic, and document. It features a "Featured Blog" with a "Blog Title" and "Created by Erika Williams".

The "Event Calendar" section shows a calendar for February 2011 with events marked on various dates.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	Event	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	Event	Events	18	19
20	Event	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	1	2	3	Event	5

# The Educurious Expert Network (TEEN)

Offer the challenge

Visit classrooms virtually in various ways

Provide expertise and support to curriculum design teams

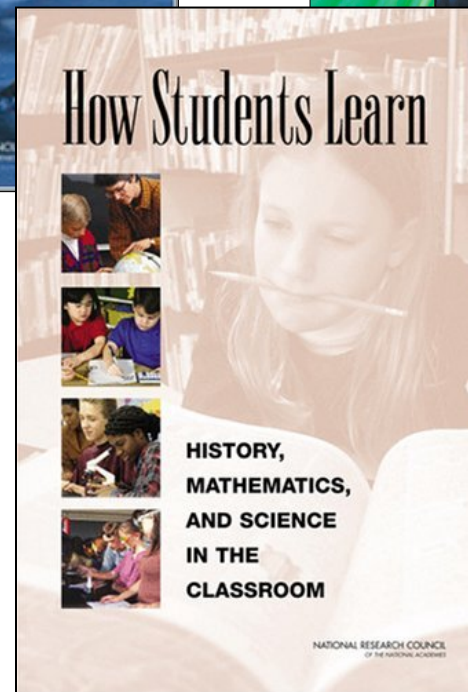
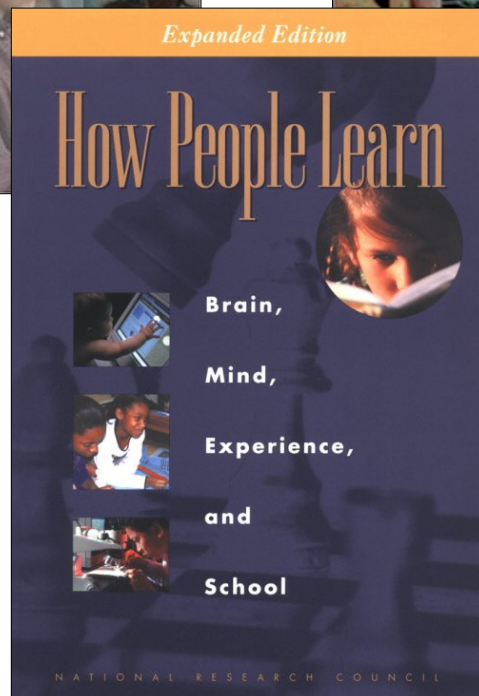
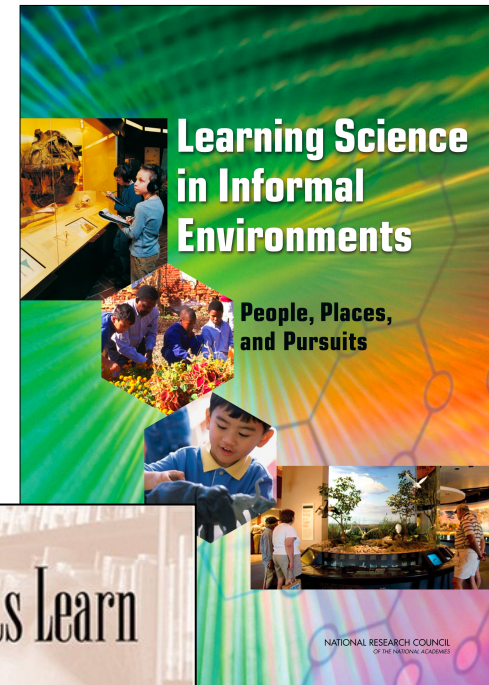
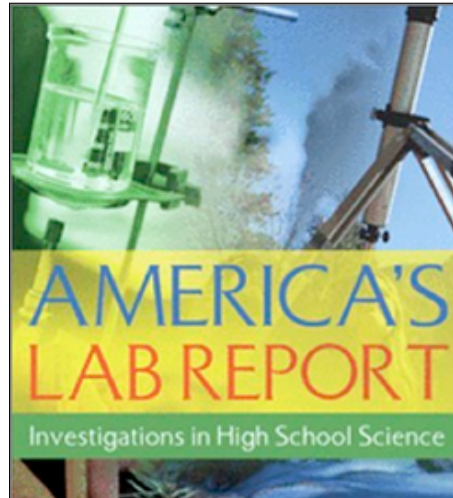
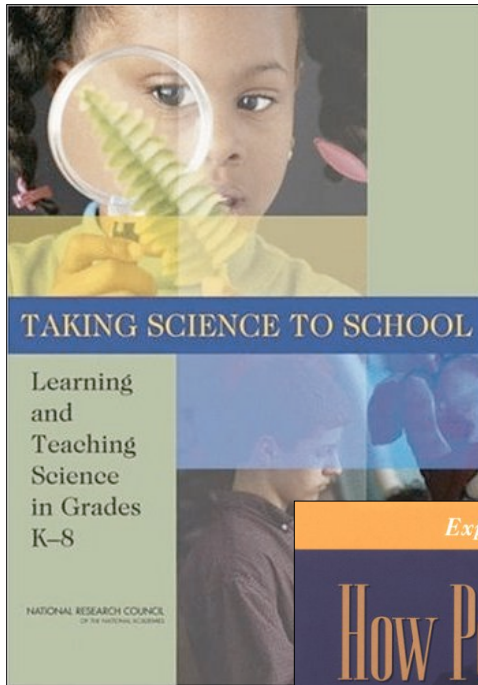
Give authentic feedback on student work

- ▶ We are all products of our social networks.
- ▶ Build volunteer network of domain experts / professionals
- ▶ April Henry & Shareen's Story



# THE NATIONAL

# ACADEMIES



[nap.edu](http://nap.edu)

# Design Research with Learner Assessment



Engagement dynamics

Metacognitive assessment

Progress along competency-based learning pathways

Detailed video analysis of high-challenge learning moments

Orchestrated assessment (pre/post)



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## Panel Discussion Format

- **Topic: How Can Technology Be Used to Support Powerful Learning Experiences for Students**
- **Topic: Reflecting on the Teaching & Learning Experience**
- **Q&A**

Join the conversation...