

Final Report for SET BC : Digital Sharing of Student Growth May 2016 Roberts Creek Elementary School

Our project goal was to explore the use of e-portfolios to demonstrate and share student learning with peers and parents. We wanted to build capacity for students to choose for example the artifact they are most proud of and that most represents their learning, on a regular basis, and to share and reflect upon it. Every Friday, or whenever they did something they were very proud of, the children got an iPad and took a video or a photo and posted it on Freshgrade and wrote a comment about how they were learning and growing. Often they recorded each other reading or explaining something they had learned. We wanted our students to learn how to use various technology independently in order to show their learning, including students reading, art, writing samples etc. They became quite skilled at using the ipads and even taught other classes about Book Creator and QR Codes. They put QR codes on the back of their Mother's Day cards, that took their mom to a picture they had drawn with a mouth on it that moved with a Mother's Day message. The grade ones were very proud that they could be the experts with technology.

Changes to our reporting practices have been explored with this project, as portfolios, which highlight student growth, can replace the traditional graded report card. For the final report card Freshgrade will be used for the comments. Next year Sylvia will do all her reporting with Freshgrade. We focused on these big ideas.

Big ideas/Learning Standards Grade 1 Language Arts BC Curriculum

Express thoughts, feelings, opinions and ideas through oral, written and visual presentations and contribute as a member of a classroom community.

Express thoughts, feelings, opinions and preferences in relation to text.

Use a variety of communication forms according to audience and purpose.

Develop and use a variety of reading strategies to make meaning from multiple types of text and build independence as a reader

Develop and use critical thinking skills to make meaning from multiple types of text

Our team consisted of Sylvia Bisbee, Classroom Teacher and Fiona James, Support Services Teacher and Principal Christa Rive on site and Sandy Magnussen, District Technology Coordinator who supported the project on a regular basis and of course, these amazing Grade 1 students. Our technology from SET BC was 8 iPad minis and we really benefitted from our monthly meetings with other teams.

Our project started out by teaching the students how to use the iPads safely and we followed the iPad rules, which we placed on every screen saver. We then progressed by using the iPads to support literacy through Clicker apps, Reading A-Z and Book Creator. We taught the students how to use QR codes to access many learning activities. I have found that using a variety of technologies helps to draw the attention of all students to the learning. I use technology to model and teach UDL strategies so my students can represent their learning using multiple means of expression. My students have used slideshows, Voicethreads, Stop Motion videos, iMovie and a variety of other technologies to show learning and to teach their peers. They are expert videographers, and are technology role models in the school.

It has been a wonderful year of learning for our team. Our challenges were minimal, navigating the interaction between the SET BC and school technology, especially when it

comes to saving and moving large files was our biggest issue. It was also challenging to share the technology at times as we had a 1:3 ratio in class. The success has been huge with student growth in reading being the highlight and parents so appreciate the communication through Freshgrade.

Please enjoy our visual walk through of the year on our Smile Box, which will be sent to you separately.

Sincerely,

Sylvia, Sandy, Fiona and Christa