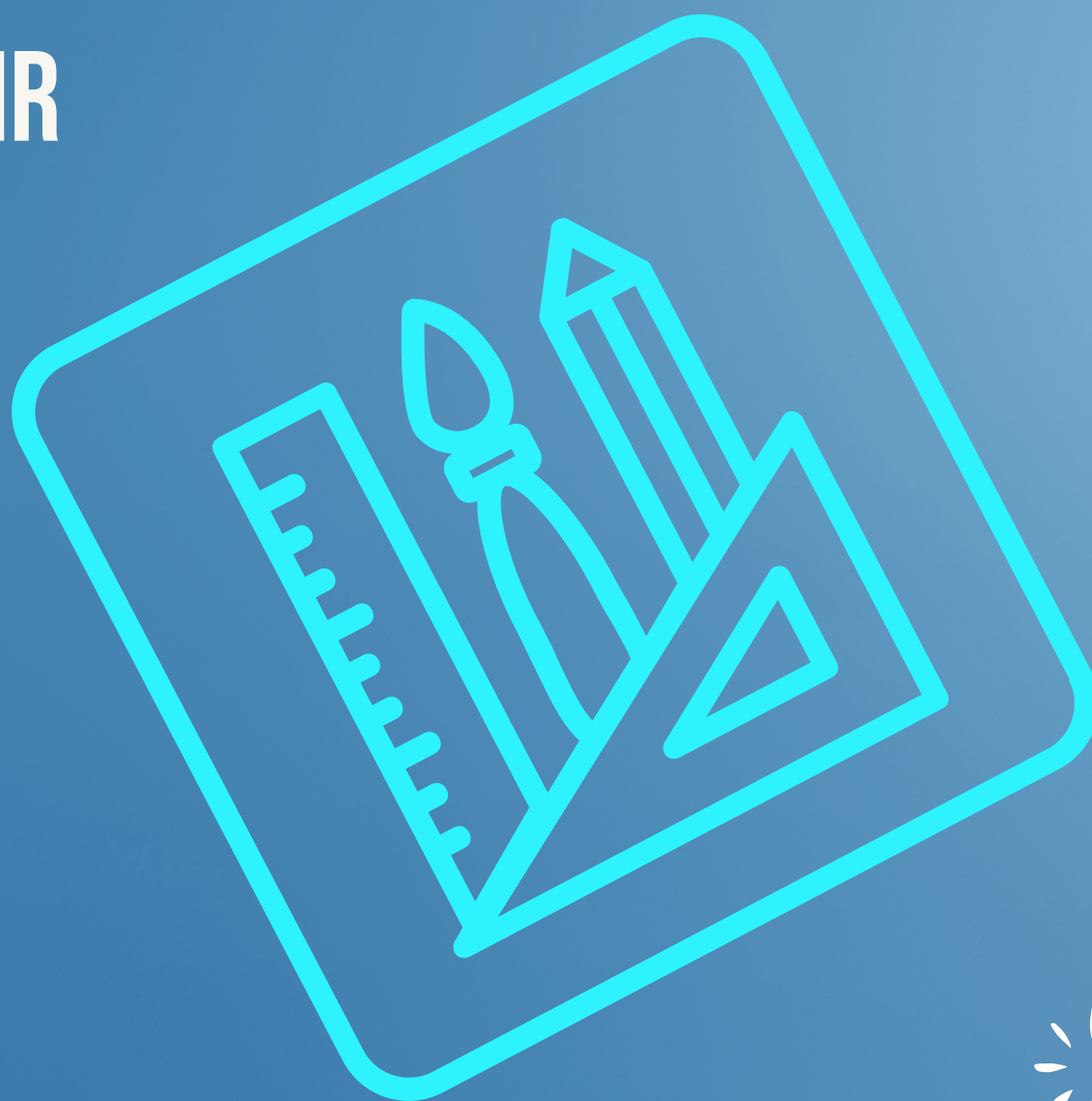


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EPIC PBL Toolkit

6 MUST-HAVE RESOURCES TO PLAN
& LEAD **PROJECT BASED LEARNING**

BY TREVOR MUIR



TREVOR MUIR
Teacher. Author. Speaker.

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Epic Guide to Plan Epic Projects

This is a guide to help you dream up purposeful, authentic projects. As you are brainstorming, use the guide to form the foundation of a PBL project. As you are planning, keep in mind that PBL is fundamentally about students solving relevant problems. So whether it's determining the authentic task, dreaming up the end of a project, or planning how you will launch it, continually ask if the experiences you are designing would be relevant to your students.

Epic Guide to Plan Epic Projects

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1. Determine a Problem

Identify a problem in your school, community, or society your students can help solve.

- How is this problem relevant to students?
- What authentic task can students complete to solve this problem?
- Which content standards align with this problem?

2. Craft the Driving Question

Create an open-ended, relevant question for students to investigate and attempt to answer throughout the project.

The Driving Question should be:

- Relevant and use kid-friendly language
- Able to be answered by the project
- Not too broad
- Not too focused
- Aligned with learning goals



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Project Overview

The Project Overview is the key planning document for your PBL project. It allows you to summarize the entire project and create a detailed plan for the learning unit. Access it using the link below, make a copy of the Google Doc, and then fill in each section of the overview.

PROJECT OVERVIEW		
Name of Project:		Duration:
Subject(s)/Course(s):		Teacher(s):
Grade Level:		Other subject areas
Project Idea Summary of the issues, challenge, investigation, scenario, or problem:		
Driving Question		
What is the theme, the major takeaway I want students to have for this project?		
Content Standards & Objectives Knowledge and skills directly taught or learned through discovery	Identified Learning Target	Evidence of Success in Achieving the Learning Target
Entry event to launch inquiry, engage students:		

Go to the Project Overview

Group Contract

A tool used to outline group expectations and promote healthy collaboration and accountability. Access it using the link below, make a copy of the Google Doc, and then use your copy to edit and give to students.

Group Contract

Team Members

Name	Email / Contact Info	Role (If there is a specific one for this project)

I. Project Goals: *What is the goal of this project?*

II. What are your Strengths / Areas for Growth as it relates to this project?

III. Team Agreements: *What standards for collaboration can your group all agree on?*

IV. Accountability: *How will you hold each other accountable to the Team Agreements?*

List the process that your team will go through in order to hold each other accountable for the above agreements. Please note that if your team decides that members should be removed from the group, you must be able to demonstrate that the team has taken appropriate steps to intervene (such as documented warnings, meeting to discuss concerns, notify the teacher of concerns, etc)

V. Team Signatures:

Name:

Signature:

Go to the Group Contract

Project Management Doc

The Project Management Doc (PMD) is a task list that students reference every day at the outset of project work time. As a group, students discuss what needs to be worked on during that specific work session, and write down who is doing what. The PMD also records everyone's roles and tasks, ensuring everyone has a task to complete. As a result, everyone has clarity on what they need to do and when they need to do it.

Project Management Doc			
Task (Next Steps)	Who Is Responsible	Due Date	Status

Go to the PMD



Collaboration Rubric

The Collaboration Rubric is a tool to give students clear expectations for their work in groups. It outlines what strong and weak collaboration looks like and gives students an indication of where their skillset is at a given time. A teacher can use the rubric for any group activity. However, it is important that the focus of the rubric is not on the specific task groups are accomplishing, rather on the student's demonstration of a collaborative skill in completing that task.

The Collaborative Classroom Collaboration Rubric				
Student Proficiency	Undeveloped	Developing	Accomplished	Advanced
Group Communication	Little if any talking with group. Not actively listening to the speaker. Body language does not reflect engagement.	Uses voice, body language, and listening to communicate most of the time.	Voices opinions and ideas throughout the task. Voice, body, and mind are fully engaged when speaking and listening.	Additionally, uses energy, patience, and inquiry to encourage group members to communicate as well.
Role	Does not know role in the collaborative task.	Knows role, but relies on team members to assign and clarify it.	Knows own role and also the role of other team members. Uses roles of each individual to maximize collaboration.	Additionally, can assign self roles based on own strengths and weaknesses.
Contribution of Ideas	Did not contribute ideas that helped the group achieve success.	Shares ideas and acknowledges others'. However, some ideas lack detail and support.	Contributes ideas to the group and has strong reasoning and support to justify the use of those ideas.	Along with own ideas, builds on others' ideas and incorporates them in the final product.
Self Advocacy	Does not seek assistance from group when necessary.	Asks questions and for assistance from group members as a last resort.	Confidently seeks help from group members whenever necessary.	Additionally, asks others if they need assistance throughout the task.
Work Ethic	Completes few if any of the assigned tasks. Often off-task.	Completes most tasks by the deadline. Mostly on-task.	Completes all tasks by the deadline, and the work is quality and adds significantly to the group's effort.	Along with completing own work, inspires and leads group members to work hard and meet deadlines.

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The Epic Classroom Book Reading Guide

This reading guide provides prompts and questions to help you make the most out of The Epic Classroom book. If you do not have it already, you can get the book here on Amazon.



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