Beyond Curiosity: Using PBL Strategies to Promote Deeper Thinking and Understanding

Wouldn't it be awesome if you could create positive energy and positive awareness with purpose and intent rather than just wishing or hoping for them?

What needs to be present in order to learn and understand something?

Students must be active participants.

Do you let students plan projects?
Do the students look at outcomes?
Do students get a say in the products and investigations?

To generate student's deeper thinking:

- Set the stage for inquiry
- Make the environment safe for thinking - RQ Technique?
- Invite feedback - "I like" (strengths), "I wonder" (weaknesses), "I have" (ideas, enhancements)
- Think about thinking
- Think as experts do
- Watch for spirals

Role of Questions

- Thinking is driven by questions.
- Need questions to turn on student's intellectual engines.
- Teachers need to be seriously engaged in thinking through or rethinking through their own subjects.

PBL Best Practices

- Significant Content
- In-Depth Inquiry
- Public Audience
- Driving Question
- Need to Know (Entry Event)

from the Buck Institute for Education

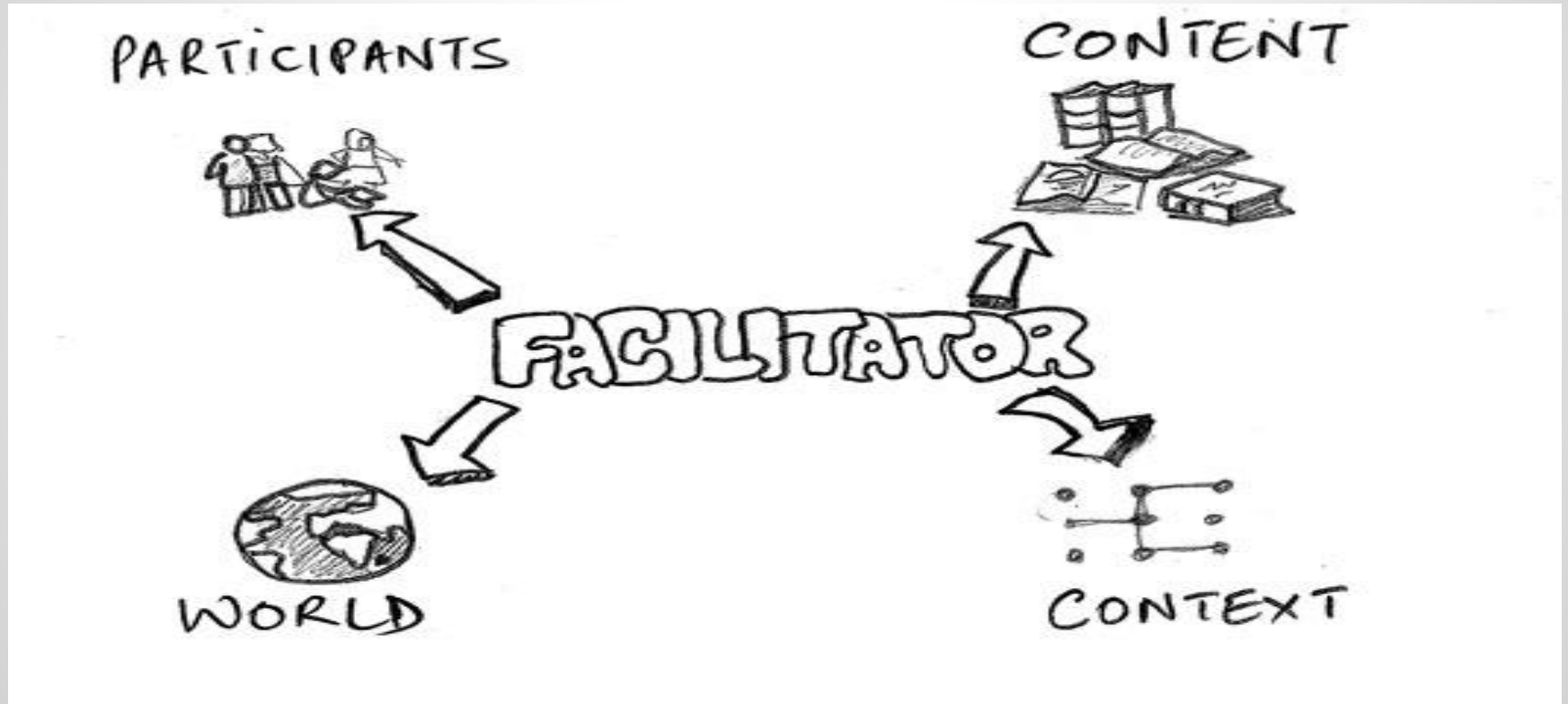# Deeper Learning Competencies

- Master core academic content
- Think critically and solve complex problems
- Work collaboratively
- Communicate effectively
- Learn how to learn
- Develop academic mindsets

from "Deeper Learning Defined"

Librarian = Facilitator

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- Constructs a driving/EQ with students
- Facilitates process for generating student questions
- Facilitates use and evaluation of resources
- Provides guidance in response to students needs
- Helps students apply learning to new tasks
- Provides additional experiences to generate new knowledge
- Facilitates student reflection

Librarian = Manager

Librarian = Manager

- Share projects goals with students
- Use problem solving tools/skills
- Use checkpoints and milestones
- Plan for evaluations and reflection.

Describe an orange.