iLabs: Supporting Teacher Inquiry

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Abstract

Inquiry-based teaching means engaging students in active learning based on their own experiences & questions. The inquiry cycle of asking, investigating, creating, discussing, & reflecting enables a deeper, more meaningful kind of learning. Inquiry teachers do best when they in turn can learn through a teaching community of practice. The Inquiry Page and Community Inquiry Labs are web-based tools to support those communities for both teachers and students.
Introduction to...

- inquiry-based learning
- community of practice
- Inquiry Page ➞ Community Inquiry Labs
What is inquiry-based learning?

- Engaging students in active learning based on their own experiences & questions
- Process of asking, investigating, creating, discussing, & reflecting
Inquiry cycle

- Ask
- Investigate
- Create
- Discuss
- Reflect
Ingredients for sofrito
Planters for each municipality
Learning by all participants
Community of practice for teaching & learning
Lesson planning using the inquiry cycle
Resources for inquiry teaching & learning
Partner projects
Collaborative teaching & learning community
Found 33 public and 2 private inquiry units. Private inquiry units can be viewed only by the author(s) of the unit after logging-in.

How Can the Inquiry Page be a Teaching Aid to Elementary and Middle School Teachers?
created by Help, Inquiry  last modified on 2003-05-23 10:58:05  ready to use

Egg parts, community, and sharing.
created by Booth, Heather  last modified on 2003-05-23 10:58:05  not ready to use

How can writing activities be integrated into the Chickscope unit?
created by Lane, Jason  last modified on 2003-05-23 10:58:05  not ready to use

How can learning be demonstrated in an Inquiry Classroom using Chickscope?
created by Booth, Heather  last modified on 2002-02-25 13:50:22  not ready to use

How does the chick grow in the egg? (Chickscope)
created by Booth, Heather  last modified on 2003-05-23 10:58:05  not ready to use
ciLabs is more than a website. It's a dynamic virtual community where inquiry-based education can be discussed, resources and experiences can be shared, and innovative approaches explored in a collaborative environment. Here you can: search a growing database of inquiry units, and you can also create your own community inquiry lab space in which to build your own inquiry units, create blogs, web pages, and more.

**ASK:**
- What is an iLab?
- What is an inquiry unit?
- Why use ciLabs?

**INVESTIGATE:**
- Tour of a sample iLab
- Search or browse other iLabs
- Video: How to create your own iLab
- Video: From the Inquiry Page to ciLabs

**CREATE:**
- Create a new iLab
Why Community Inquiry Labs?

- University supported: no cost, non-commercial, no data mining, no ads, no spam
- Participatory design
- Inquiry unit builder
- Community of practice: community access, sharing, cc by
Links

- Inquiry Page: inquiry.illinois.edu
- CILabs: cilabs.illinois.edu
- More on inquiry and the Campos High School: go.illinois.edu/frogs
References


