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| ***The learner engages with relevant, worthy inquiries and experiences that are interesting or emotionally gripping.*** | Learner’s inquiries stem from his or her sense of curiosity and critical thinking, which stimulates action, conversation, and reflection. Instead of skimming the surface to arrive at an oversimplified solution, slower, in-depth study on a topic increases understanding in a developmentally appropriate manner. Immersed in ambiguity and uncertainty, the learners experience ideal conditions for learning. This condition can be brief or extended—either way it primes the brain for engagement. | | * Questioning and problem posing * Listening with understanding and empathy |
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| ***The learner engages in an active, intentional cycle with clear goals and right-sized, actionable steps.*** | While the following cycle looks linear in nature, the learner can enter into the cycle at any point. Learner: identifies a new problem or level; develops an initial plan of action; experiments with initial plan; seeks feedback and completes data collection (develop new skills); reflects by reading and processing the feedback; changes or continues with the plan of action; adjusts the target to find a new problem or level that requires new learning. | | * Applying past knowledge to new situations * Taking responsible risks * Persisting * Remaining open to continuous learning |
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| ***The learner engages in social, collaborative opportunities that grow expertise.*** | When exploring different network spaces, the student invites increasingly sophisticated resources—online forums, blogs, wikis, listservs, YouTube channels, field experts—into his or her learning. Collaborating with partners in small and large groups, plugging into and participating in physical and virtual networks within and beyond school community: sharing ideas, making sense of questions, developing a solution, and offering insight about obstacles to grow expertise. | | * Thinking interdependently * Listening with understanding and empathy * Thinking and communicating with clarity and precision * Thinking flexibly |
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