

Enhancing Student-to-Self Communication with Technology

CHALLENGES

- Teachers need an easy way to enable students to reflect on both the process and the products of learning.
- Creating and managing opportunities for students to reflect frequently throughout the learning process is difficult on paper.
- Teachers need to support students in making explicit links between past, present, and future learning experiences.
- Supporting students to record and externalize their thinking in ways that are accessible and that support rather than distract from the reflection process can be difficult.

SOLUTIONS

- Digital learning journals provide a student-friendly platform on which to record, store, and reflect on work, and they allow students and teachers to easily access and review historical work.
- Digital learning journals often allow for text and audio commenting on items by teachers and students, and they enable teachers and students to record the process of learning through videos and photos.
- Digital note-taking tools allow students to make and share notes on learning more seamlessly and in ways that match their learning needs. They can record their thinking process for future reflection.

DIGITAL APPROACHES

- Students can use digital learning journals to
 - » easily collect, store, and share examples of their work and learning that demonstrate progress and process;
 - » collect videos and multimedia examples of their learning; and
 - » reflect on individual items in both text and audio format (for emergent readers and students with differing needs).
- Students can use digital note taking to
 - » create mind maps and notes on learning that they can easily share, add to, and access from home or different classes; and
 - » visually record and communicate the process of making connections, developing understanding and self-organization.

DIGITAL TOOLS

- Digital learning journals or cloud-based storage:
 - » Evernote
 - » Google Drive
 - » Google Sites
 - » Seesaw
 - » Showbie
- Mind-mapping tools:
 - » Coggle
 - » iBrainstorm
 - » Mindmeister
 - » MindMup
 - » Mindomo
 - » Padlet
 - » Popplet
- Note-taking:
 - » Google Keep
 - » iOS Notes
 - » Microsoft OneNote
 - » Notability
 - » Post-it Plus