A road map for our connected journey

- Explore intersection of personal and professional in the digital age
- Identify 21st century learning “game changers”
- Learn about connected learning and how to be a connected learner
- Share resources and best practices for connected learning
- Describe new tools for technology-mediated professional learning
- Case Study: Innovative technology tools for family engagement
What 21\textsuperscript{st} century tools do you use for personal and professional learning?

We use 21\textsuperscript{st} century tools for personal and professional learning

- Laptops or desktops
- Smartphones
- Tablets with apps
- eBook Readers
- Digital Cameras / Video camcorders
- iPod / MP3 players
- WiFi
- Google search
- eMail & Text messages
- Skype, Face Time, Hangouts
- Social media
- Streaming media – YouTube, Netflix, Hulu
- Blogs and news aggregators
1 device/platform to rule them all

- Check email
- Send a text
- Make a phone call
- Check the weather
- Update your calendar
- Keep up with news
- Check the sports scores
- Get directions
- Buy something

- Make a reservation/buy tickets
- Search for information
- Learn and build skills
- Participate in social media
- Listen to music/podcast
- Watch a video
- Take and share a photo/video
- Read a book or magazine
- Connect with others

Old tech and new tech

70's/80's Child

- How I lived without a smartphone
- How I lived without an iPod
- How I lived without Google
- How I lived without Facebook
- How I lived without email
- How I lived without a stove or fridge
- How I lived without a TV
- How I lived without CDs
- How I lived without a record player
- How I lived without a bicycle
- How I lived without a radio
- How I lived without a typewriter
- How I lived without a telephone
- How I lived without a car
- How I lived without a car
- How I lived without a car
- How I lived without a car
Old tech and new tech

What are your favorite old school and new school tools for personal communication and connection?

Old school
• ???

New school
• ???

Learning: Old School and New School
6 layers of technology use in ECE

1. Tools for personal use, everyday living, communicating and connecting
2. Tools and methods for teacher preparation and professional development
3. Tools for program management and classroom teaching
4. Tools for teaching and learning with young children
5. Tools for strengthening the home-school connection and enhancing family engagement
6. Tools for professional communicating, collaborating and connecting and creating – for transforming the workforce

Ready to learn? Ready to teach?

21st century learning game changers

• Formal and informal
• On-demand / Just-in-time
• Self-paced / Individualized
• Professional Learning PLNs
• Learning communities
• OERs – Open Educational Resources / Open Source
• F2F, online, blended, flipped
• Distributed / MOOCs
• Lifelong and lifewide
• Visual
• Mobile
• Bite-size
• Social
• Connected

Learn anytime, anywhere with anyone on any device
Lifelong & lifewide learning ecology

• Connects personal and professional – “Internet of Me”
• Anytime, anywhere, with anyone on any device
• Everywhere all the time
• Blends formal and informal learning
• Mobile access to on-demand, just-in-time & micro learning
• Social learning and professional learning communities
• Connected learning

Social learning

• Social Media / Networks
• Participatory culture
• User-contributed content
• User ratings, rankings and reviews
• Peer-to-peer
• Crowd sourcing
• PLNs/Communities of interest/ COPs
Connected learning matters

• Connections between everything and everyone = deeper learning that addresses learners’ specific needs

• A highly connected learning ecosystem of technologies that support sharing, collaboration and global links to specialists

• Technology is for more than delivering content – creates unique pathways needed to accomplish goals

• Integrate personal connections, experiences in-class, out-of-class and at home, networks, collaborations, and resources
Connected learning is

*Equitable, social, and participatory learning*

“Draws on the power of today’s technology to fuse people’s interests, friendships, and academic achievement through experiences laced with hands-on production, shared purpose and open networks.

- Peer culture
- Learner interests
- Shared purpose
- Openly networked
- Academic achievement
- Production centered

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How does connected learning work?

- Puts the learner at the center of the educational experience
- Depends on active participation and meaningful contributions
- Depends on peer-to-peer sharing, storytelling, collaboration
- Based on an understanding of how to use connections to find answers – crowd sourcing, user ratings and rankings
- Individual learners organize resources, interactions and tech tools in unique and personal ways to accomplish goals

*A connectivist approach for constructivists*
Become a connected learner & educator

- Start with your own digital media literacy
- Use the tools in your hands to connect
- Let the digital experts teach you
- Nudge yourself from linker to lurker to learner to leader
- Be a participant and contributor to the online community
- Share your personal stories and professional best practices
- Learn with and from other educators / Value peer-to-peer learning
- Build relationships through personal connections, respectful interactions and supportive contributions

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Become a connected learner & educator

- Connect with a purpose
- Integrate what you know, what you do and what you are learning
- Jump in to blended learning, online modules, webinars, communities...
- Dive in to social media – Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, LinkedIn, YouTube...
Become a connected learner & educator

- Use collaborative tools for online meetings and presentations
- Find and follow trusted sources and curators
- Set aside time to get/stay connected
- Start a tech playgroup – try a new tool each month
- Design your own professional learning network

Connected learning in action – When you collaborate, listen, learn, reflect, discuss, share, care

Your Professional Learning Network

A PLN is a vibrant, ever-changing group of connections to which educators go to both share and learn...that reflect your values, passions, expertise, areas of interest and inquiry.

PLNs are about relationships enabled and empowered by technology

1. Find the professionals (COP)
2. Find your niche groups (COI)
3. Find your friends and mentors (PLN)
4. “Know when to say when” – screen time limits for PLNs
Create your PLN

- This is your PLN – you determine your needs and goals and then identify thought-leaders to follow
- Each participant becomes a source of information
- Tell stories, share resources and ask questions
- Accept invitations to collaborate
- Use social media and technology to collect, communicate, collaborate and create with connected colleagues anywhere at anytime

Create your PLN

- Join and participate in education groups/pages on Facebook – or start your own
- Create a Twitter group to follow educators
- Build a Pinterest board about an interest area
- Start a circle of connected educators on LinkedIn
- Follow education blogs and bloggers, post comments, write a blog
COP, COI, PLN >>> 21st century learning

Connected learning for connected educators

☑ Move from collector >> aggregator >> rater/reviewer >> curator
☑ Become a 21st century learner to be a 21st century educator
☑ Be a 21st century educator to support your 21st century learners

Connected learning that is…
active, relevant, real-world,
effective, hands-on, networked,
inquiry-based, innovative,
personal, transformative

“Becoming a connected educator is the most impactful thing you can do in your career.”
Elana Leoni,
Social Media Marketing Manager, EduTopia
Technology in professional learning

Who?

- Teacher Educators, Professional Development Providers, Trainers, Program Administrators, Curriculum Coordinators...everyone who prepares teachers

What?

- Pre-service
- In-service
- Professional development
- Continuing education
- Lifelong & lifewide learning

Professional learning to transform the workforce

High-quality professional learning is

- Intentional
- Ongoing
- Coherent
- Collaborative
- Interdisciplinary
- Tied to Practice
- Responsive
Transformative learning with digital tools

...what does it mean to be literate in the 21st century?

- Learn how to ask the right questions – Inquiry, critical thinking and problem solving
- Know how to get answers – Information gathering and curating
- Learn about what others are doing – Global awareness, a world of potential learning at your fingertips
- Know how to work with people around the world – Social, collaborative, connected, participatory, sharing stories
- Move from consumer to creator – Representing, making, tinkering, coding
- Be a reflective educator – Lifelong, lifewide, mindful, intentional

Questions are the new answers... for young children and their adults

Tech Play Group
Share your favorite app, website or digital solution for connecting with early childhood educators and ideas
TEC Curation – Connected Learning

CONNECT

TEC Curation – Our Connections
21st century tools for family engagement

- Smartphones
- Broadband Internet access
- Laptops or desktops
- Tablets
- eBook Readers
- eMail
- Text messages
- Website / apps
- Blogs and eNewsletters
- Social media
- Video chat – Skype, Webinars
- Streaming media – YouTube
- ????
TEC Curation – Family Engagement

[Logos of various organizations related to early childhood education and technology]

CONNECT