connectedlib.ischool.uw.edu

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**Helping librarians use digital media to make learning connections with youth.**

supported by: INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES
CONNECTED LEARNING

INTERESTS
- Music
- Video Games
- Websites

PRODUCTION CENTERED
- Entertainment
- Mobile Apps
- School
- Employers

OPENLY NETWORKED
- Mentors
- Peer Groups
- Social Media
- Family
- Higher Education

OPPORTUNITIES

SHARED PURPOSE

image courtesy of Connected Learning Research Network
Guiding Question #1:
To what extent do public youth library programs across the country already reflect principles of connected learning?

Guiding Question #2:
What successes and challenges do public youth librarians face with respect to incorporating connected learning into their youth programming?
what we did: data collection

- **62** interviews with public youth librarians
- focus groups with **26** youth librarians
- urban, suburban, rural libraries
- **41** states & District of Columbia represented
- participant observations of library youth programs
what we did: analysis

- compiled field notes
- developed coding scheme
- tested reliability between coders
- applied codes to interview transcripts
- extracted salient themes
what we found

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what we found

Guiding Question #2:
What **successes** and **challenges** do public youth librarians face with respect to incorporating connected learning into their youth programming?

→ **3 successes, 3 challenges**
challenge/success #1
challenge: capacity to use technology
success: interest-driven programming

“We're really using the technology as a tool to explore the kids' passions... Any kind of one technology, we're not trying to teach them... We want them to learn 21st century skills, but we want it to be all interest based.”

Public Youth Librarian
challenge/success #2
challenge: teen culture vs. library culture
success: youth-librarian relationships
challenge/success #3
challenge: connecting with schools
success: community partnerships
next steps: creating a professional development toolkit

**purpose:**
- educate youth librarians about CL
- build capacity to implement CL in diverse settings

**approach:**
- use interview themes to create modules
- develop modules w/ partner libraries
- pilot test & refine
connect with us:

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