
Making our way to Language & Literacy

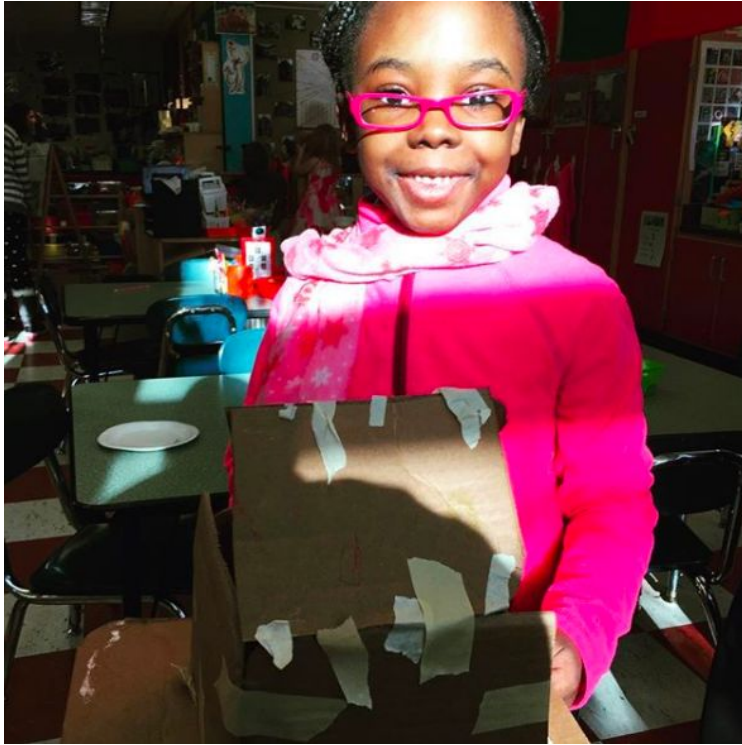
Sue Cusack • Lesley University
Lesley STEAM Learning Lab

scusack@lesley.edu • <http://steam.lesley.edu/>



Studying *The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind* by Kamkwamba & Mealer

Making in an Education Content



Here is what we notice:

- Increase in students' ability to describe their thinking (metacognition)
- Increase in student engagement with a corresponding decrease in unwanted behavior
- Increase in student interpersonal & collaboration skills

Meaning-making and thinking become visible

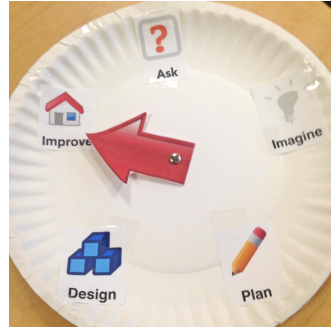
When students are engaged in making activities, their problem solving processes and thinking are apparent.



Novel Engineering

<http://www.novelengineering.org/>

Novel Engineering, developed by Tufts University, allows students to engage in a close reading of a text to identify a problem, find text-based evidence to support their ideas, and build/test their solutions using the iterative engineering process.



Somerville Public Schools, Somerville, MA

Using Stop Motion Animation to Share Understanding

Wolves Stop Motion - 3rd Grade Research Project
<http://steam.lesley.edu/3-2-1-action/>



Augmented Reality: A Pathway to Language & Identity

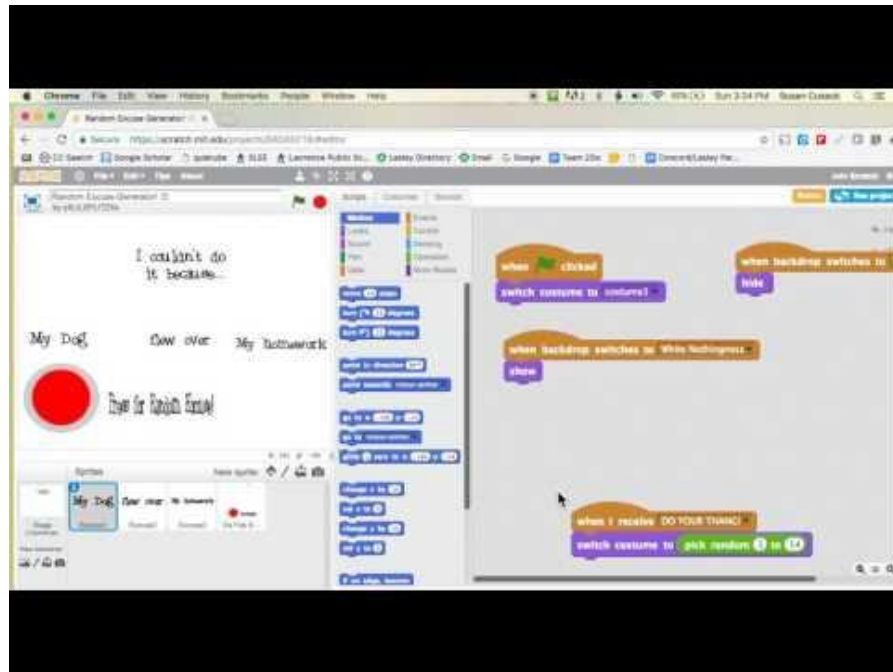


Setting the Scene for Green Screen

Polar Bears - 3rd Grade Research Project
<http://steam.lesley.edu/3-2-1-action/>

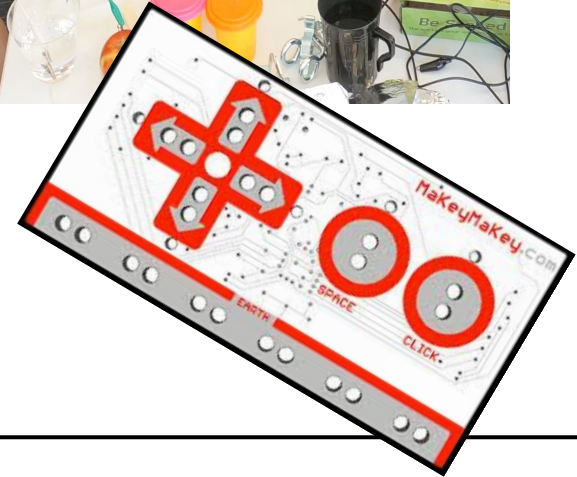


Word Play & Coding in Scratch



Conference presentation by a group of elementary students from Cambridge Public Schools, Cambridge MA

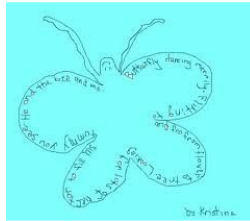
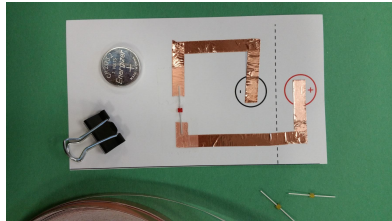
A New Approach to Readers Theater



Concrete Poems & Paper Circuits

WHAT: Concrete Poems are written to take the shape of poem's topic. And paper circuits are self-designed simple or complex circuits made of cardstock, copper tape, a 3V battery, and LEDs.

YOUR CHALLENGE: Create a simple circuit to enhance a concrete poem.





*A makerspace is
not a place . . .*

A makerspace is
a mindset.
