

# Deeper learning resources

Exploring a new topic can be exciting. We want to help make sure your exploration is productive, with targeted searches from reliable sources. This list, while not comprehensive, offers good resources for deeper learning.

## Deeper learning experiences provide students with opportunities to:

- Understand complex academic content
- Apply knowledge and make connections within and across disciplines
- Demonstrate learning through original, authentic work that is connected to the learner's identity
- Develop 21st-century skills such as collaboration, communication and creative problem-solving

Adapted from Mehta, Jal & Sarah Fine (2015) and Learning Policy Institute (2020)

## Elements brief: Deeper & personalized learning

[education.asu.edu/elementsdlpl](http://education.asu.edu/elementsdlpl)

As we contemplate the promise of deeper and personalized learning, we have come to believe there is more power in combining these two approaches than in implementing either by itself.

## ASU iTeachELLs/PBELL

[education.asu.edu/iteachells](http://education.asu.edu/iteachells)

Problem-based learning is a deeper learning approach, and these short problem-based learning units support all students, including ELLs. Check out the [PBELL Lesson Plans](#) to access mini-unit lesson plans and PowerPoint presentations.

## Deeper Learning Hub

[deeper-learning.org](http://deeper-learning.org)

Deeper Learning Hub contains a number of helpful resources for taking a deeper learning approach with your students. Review the [Share Your Learning resource page](#) or attend an [event](#).

## Edutopia

[edutopia.org](http://edutopia.org)

While Edutopia is not specifically a deeper learning resource, the site contains a wealth of resources on deeper learning-adjacent approaches and strategies like [inquiry-based learning](#) and [project-based learning](#).

## EL Education

[eleducation.org](http://eleducation.org)

EL Education provides a wealth of resources that support deeper learning. We like the [K-8 ELA Curriculum](#), the [K-5 classroom protocols](#) and the [Models of Excellence](#), featuring beautiful student work and interdisciplinary projects.

## High Tech High

[hightechhigh.org](http://hightechhigh.org)

Deeper learning provides students the opportunity to create meaningful, authentic work. If you're looking for ideas, consider checking out High Tech High's [student projects](#) or their [PBL Design Kit](#).

## PBL Works

[pblworks.org/](http://pblworks.org/)

PBL Works (formerly The Buck Institute) offers videos, [resources](#) and [project ideas](#) for project-based learning, a deeper learning approach. We like the [project planner](#) and the [Tiny House Project](#) video.

## 100+ Middle and High Schools Worth Visiting

[gettingsmart.com](http://gettingsmart.com)

Getting Smart posts resources on deeper learning, but this isn't necessarily one of them. Still, several of the schools featured take deeper learning approaches. Look at NuVu's design approach or Big Picture's internships.

*Deep Learning: Engage the World, Change the World* (Fullan, Quinn & McEachen, 2017)

Fullan, Quinn and McEachen describe what powerful learning looks like not just for students, but for adults, and they suggest how leaders can mobilize whole-system change to create empowering, challenging learning environments for all students.

*In Search of Deeper Learning: The Quest to Remake the American High School* (Mehta & Fine, 2019).

In their extensive research at 30 high schools, Mehta and Fine find that deeper learning is more often the exception than the rule. The pockets of powerful learning they find, at almost every school, reveal important keys to deeper learning: purpose and choice, cultivating community, and drawing on powerful traditions of apprenticeship. Grounded in research, *In Search of Deeper Learning* offers a vision of what education can be.

*Learning That Lasts: Challenging, Engaging and Empowering Students With Deeper Instruction* (Berger, Woodfin, & Vilen, 2016)

*Learning That Lasts* is a practical guide for educators who want to build deeper learning environments. Leaders of EL Education offer strategies that promote deeper understanding, higher order thinking and student independence. Readers will appreciate the case studies, companion videos and examples of powerful learning at all grade levels, in all disciplines.