



Wednesday Word-shops!

Wednesday Word-shops are our practitioner-based professional development workshops – each Word-shop is a chance to share ideas and activities with other educators in an informal, fun way. One Wednesday a month, we will discuss a current topic or trend in education. Each session will be kicked-off by a member of the Quarrybrook Education Team, then the majority of the evening will be devoted to teachers sharing and collaborating on activities for immediate use in the classroom.

For the 2017-2018 academic year, there are two blocks of Wednesday Word-shops.

Each block is connected by theme, but word-shops will also stand alone.

Completion of each block earns participants **10 PDPs**.

Session One: Creating Interdisciplinary Curricula

Our first block of workshops will focus on ways to integrate different disciplines in meaningful ways; the goal will be to discuss and share ways in which integrating multiple disciplines can help students achieve a deeper understanding of the content of each.

September 27th: Integrating Math and Science. For our first Word-shop, we will start with what Quarrybrook is known for, integrating math and science through experiential teaching and learning. We'll discuss the relationship between mathematical knowledge and science achievement, and explore lessons that make the use of math in science visible to students.

October 25th: Integrating History and ELA. In our second Word-shop, we will discuss reasons to merge ELA with history and then share engaging activities that help students bring their skills and knowledge from both disciplines together for deeper learning.

November 15th: Integrating Math and History. In Word-shop three, we'll start to stretch a bit more and discuss how we can bring mathematical concepts into the teaching of history, and vice versa. We'll look at activities for different age groups, and discuss the purpose of bringing these two disciplines together in the classroom.

December 13th: Integrating Science and ELA. For the final fall Word-shop, we'll focus on how to bring literacy into science, and science into the ELA classroom. Through experiential lesson demonstrations, we'll explore ways to engage and support learners in both disciplines simultaneously.

Bring an activity to share that demonstrates how you address interdisciplinary objectives in your classroom!

Session Two: Integrating 21st Century Skills in the Classroom

Our second block of workshops will expand on the discussion of integration to include 21st Century Skills, such as critical thinking, problem solving, and self-regulation; we will focus on ways to include cognitive and non-cognitive skills in the classroom, embedded in the disciplinary learning they support.

February 7th: Problem Finding and Problem Solving. In our first spring Word-shop, we'll go beyond discussing skills and strategies for problem solving to also discuss the important role of problem finding. Innovation in any field requires the ability to see what could be better in any situation and to come up with potential solutions. We'll look at activities for increasing students' problem-finding and problem-solving skills, and discuss application of those skills in specific disciplines.

March 7th: Engaging in Critical Thinking. In our second Word-shop we will take on the ultimate buzz-word: critical thinking! Although we all know that it is important, sometimes it is less clear exactly what it is and how we get students to improve their critical thinking skills. In this Word-shop, we will look at activities that pay special attention to students' critical thinking with data, both quantitative and qualitative.

April 11th: Group and Independent Work. For our third Word-shop, we will look at the use of both group and individual work in the classroom, especially how each can complement experiential teaching and learning. We'll share activities that help students have positive social interactions during group projects, and others that support the development of motivation and self-advocacy for independent work. We'll also discuss the role of personality (Introverts and Extroverts) in the classroom.

May 9th: Creativity and Imagination. Our final Word-shop of the year will take a look at the development and support of creativity in the classroom, and how disciplinary learning can be used to increase creativity and imagination, which can lead to innovation. We'll use simple activities and also look at more in-depth assignments to discuss how we can foster students' imagination without feeling that we are giving up time for content.

Bring an activity that blends your content with non-cognitive and / or 21st Century skills in the classroom!

Check our [website](#) for more information including how to earn PDPs and to register!

QUARRYBROOK EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CENTER

39 Roulston Road
Windham, NH 03087
603.890.1222