Design Thinking How can it be transformed to serve a sustainable educational models?

OEWEEK 2023

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What is Design Thinking (DT)?

- A method of work and a type of project in Industrial Design
- A way to learn and to be a creative citizen designerly thinking
- A type of Project in mainstream schooling
- Co-creation, design, engagement with real life issues, transdisciplinary and wicked problems, designing tools and services to meet identifiable problems in individuals, society, environment



A critical review of DT in mainstream education so far

- Learning process and content
- DT and the teacher
- DT and the school context
- overall criticism



Main themes: Learning process and content

- DT and creativity: from lack to overconfidence
- DT exposes the challenge of learning through productive failure
- DT exposes the lack of tolerance for ambiguity
- DT and problems in group dynamics
- DT and the gap between process and subject domain
- DT vs academic, thinking rigour
- Does DT support robust resilient learning gains?



Main themes: DT and the teacher

- Teaching practice in a DT course
- Teacher challenges
- The teacher as designer of DT courses
- Professional development for DT



Main themes: DT and the school context

- The problems with connecting DT to curriculum
- Time economy and connecting to school structure, scripts and norms



Main themes: overall criticism

- Is DT a boondoggle?
- Is DT innovation 'hot air' ?



The ExtenDT2 approach

- Use expressive constructionist digital media to
 - Enhance the DT educational value
 - Provide a sustainable model for DT implementation in mainstream education
 - Allow for unlimited access, equity and inclusion in the DT experience for learning and citizenship
- Enhance such media and ensuing DT practices with emerging technologies



The ExtenDT2 approach

- The use of digital artefacts built with authoring systems allows for robust longitudinal learning gains
 - Embedded concepts and skills, cultivate creativity, legitimising productive failure
- Digital media as tools for modelling and coconstruction
- Digital artefacts as rapid prototyping tools and as DT productions
- The productions are tangible and in the form of models for user enjoyment, reflection, creation and design for commercial solutions



The ExtenDT2 approach

- Can be embedded in transdisciplinary school projects involving the use of digital media and the cultivation of 21st century skills such as computational thinking
- There is possibility for a wide range of problem areas including wicked problems but not exclusive to these
- Requires professional development connected to the cultivation of 21st century skills and CT
- Connection to commercialisation is not necessary, the productions can be addressed as instantiations of ideas for future commercial solutions
- Analytics can provide assessment infrastructure



The ExtenDT2 model: examples of digital media for DT

- Authoring Systems affording 'design for all'
- Computational Thinking: Embedded Concepts & afforded practices
- Authorable socio-scientific issues
- Modelling, making choices, classifying



The ExtenDT2 technologies (1): 'MaLT2' – MachineLab Turtleworlds Programmable modelling of 3D animated figural models http://etl.ppp.uoa.gr/malt2





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The ExtenDT2 technologies (2): 'ChoiCo' A 'choices with consequences' sustainability game for socio-scientific issues http://etl.ppp.uoa.gr/choico





The ExtenDT2 technologies (3): 'SorBET' a sorting tetris-like game for whatever it makes sense to classify http://etl.ppp.uoa.gr/sorbet





Classifying to grapple with complex unclassifiable issues





Extending the media with emerging technologies to further serve

- Analytics and AI
- Augmented reality
- 3D printing



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ExtenDT2: extending Digital Thinking with Digital Technologies



1-05, project 101060231

Co-funded by the European Union