READING GUIDE: Project-based Learning
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Use this guide to help you take notes when you are reading this module's articles. You may use these notes for the quiz.

Introduction: Project-based Learning (Janine Sepulveda)
1. How would you describe the approach and benefits of Project-based Learning (PBL)?
2. Briefly describe each essential element of PBL and its importance.
    a. Starting with the essential question
    b. Planning the project design
    c. Providing voice and choice
    d. Creating a schedule
    e. Assessing the outcome
    f. Finding a wider audience
3. Would any of the sample projects work in your class? Why or why not? How might you adapt them to fit your needs?
4. What should teachers who are new to PBL consider?

Less Teaching and More Learning (Susan Gaer)
1. Why did Gaer decide to try PBL in her classes?
2. What was the initial project and what was the outcome?
3. How does Gaer determine the topic of a project for her lower-level students?
4. How did Gaer involve a wider audience in the folk stories project?
5. What creative elements did Gaer include in the folk stories project?
6. How did meaningful language production develop in the folk stories project? What motivated the students to work on their language skills?
7. Why did Gaer need to start with small projects at Santa Ana College? What projects did she choose?
8. What specific skills did Gaer's students learn during the newspaper project?
9. According to Gaer, what elements are essential to the success of a project?
10. How can projects work in multi-level classes?
11. Overall, what benefits does Gaer find in using projects in English class?

Self-reflection
✓ If you currently use PBL in your classes, what successes have you had? Why do you think the projects were successful?
✓ How might you improve future projects?
✓ If you have never used PBL, what kinds of projects might you be able to use in your classes? (Remember to connect projects to your curriculum and student interests!)

Share your ideas in the Project-based Learning discussion!

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