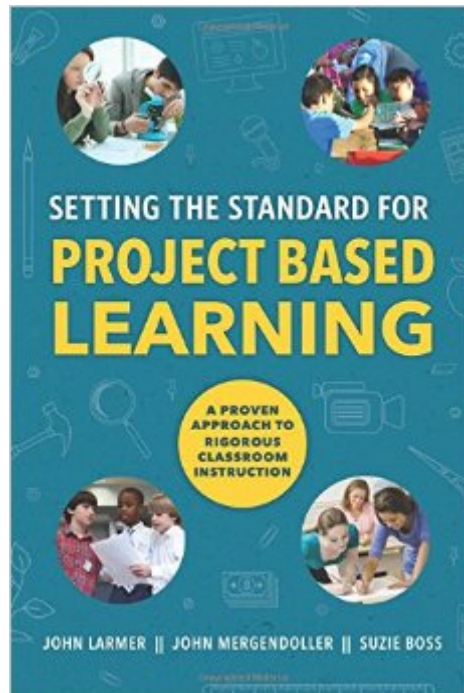# Setting The Standard For Project Based Learning: A Proven Approach To Rigorous Classroom Instruction

Synopsis

Project based learning (PBL) is gaining renewed attention with the current focus on college and career readiness and the performance-based emphases of Common Core State Standards, but only high-quality versions can deliver the beneficial outcomes that schools want for their students. It's not enough to just do projects. Today's projects need to be rigorous, engaging, and in-depth, and they need to have student voice and choice built in. Such projects require careful planning and pedagogical skill. The authors leaders at the respected Buck Institute for Education take readers through the step-by-step process of how to create, implement, and assess PBL using a classroom-tested framework. Also included are chapters for school leaders on implementing PBL systemwide and the use of PBL in informal settings.Examples from all grade levels and content areas provide evidence of the powerful effects that PBL can have, including:- increased student motivation and preparation for college, careers, and citizenship;- better results on high-stakes tests;- a more satisfying teaching experience; and-new ways for educators to communicate with parents, communities, and the wider world.By successfully implementing PBL, teachers can not only help students meet standards but also greatly improve their instruction and make school a more meaningful place for learning. Both practical and inspirational, this book is an essential guide to creating classrooms and schools where students and teachers excel.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Buck Institute has been the leading voice in project-based learning for some time. This book provides the latest experience on what makes effective PBL, or what they call Gold Standard PBL. It

even talks about how to implement PBL in different environments such as after-school programs. I would suggest this as a great introduction for those who are unfamiliar, and even for those who have tried projects in some form but are wondering if they are getting it right. It is very common to see educators add some form of project to their traditional classes thinking this is PBL and will reap the well documented benefits of PBL. This books helps distinguish "projects" from Gold Standard PBL.The only weakness I would note is that the book goes out of its way to support use of PBL in a wide variety of ways without really noting differences in what to expect. For example, one could add a PBL capstone activity to a course or grade. There is clear value in this action, but one should not expect any where near the transformative benefit that comes when PBL is used for 100% of instruction, for example. There are many schools who are trying PBL as enrichment. That is all good, but it is not getting education where it needs to be. The few schools using PBL as an integral part of a reinvented education are getting much better results -- both in test scores and in preparing students to be the independent, lifelong learners that are successful in today's dynamic economy. I just wish there was more understanding of those differences and of what is really possible with more ambitious implementations. If more could see what is possible we might see more people trying ii, and our country would be in a much better position.

This book was SO interesting! I loved all the examples & the ideas that could be used. I absolutely plan on incorporating this into my future classroom, & I strongly recommend this book to any educator or administrator interested in incorporating PBLs to their curriculum or school system!

In conducting lengthy research on Project Based Learning, I have found this book as one of the most helpful resources, providing a "North Star" for which we educators can aim in implementing PBL in our classrooms. All students deserve the learning opportunities described in this book. Thanks to John Larmer and Buck Institute for sharing the invaluable information, insights and experiences for the benefit of all.

Setting the Standard for Project Based Learning was excellent we ordered several copies after reviewing the first one....

Excellent book, highly recommended

It totally met my expectations.

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