

DESIGNED INGENUITY

A LEARNING FRAMEWORK FOR THE CREATIVE MIND



Think Big.

The time to reimagine education is upon us if we are to prepare this next generation to thrive in the 'creative economy' – one where competitive advantage is based on innovation and the rapid introduction of new ideas.

It's complex and daunting work, but it's the right work.

Start Small.

The idea of 'Agile' emerged from the software industry. It uses small experiments to spark fast, iterative learning cycles to quickly solve complex problems.

Each learning cycle creates surprise. Each surprise allows us to know the problem better.

With this process in mind, a new learning framework – Designed InGenuity or DIG – is under construction.

It's a practice that allows school leaders, their teachers, and support staff to experience, once again, the original joy of curiosity-led learning and inspire wonder and deeper learning for our students.

Move Fast.

Each DIG is typically a five-day sprint. It begins with a shared understanding of the subject under exploration – a 'common ground' – and the assignment of individual scramblers, that create 'plots' of discovery for each learner.

From there, the learners follow their curiosity – we call it 'Rabbit Hole Research' – to learn about the topics under investigation, but also about themselves as they integrate their own personal interests.

Their commission is to uncover something that delights them, and then to create something that they can use to tell the story about this discovery in a way that might inspire wonder in others.

DIG DownUnder.

The Designed InGenuity framework has emerged from a five-year journey, captured in the book. "The Dayton Experiment: How a public school in rural Oregon reimagined education, unleashed its students' creative potential, and became a model for the nation."

We're building a movement to spread the impact of what was learned.

OUR NEXT DIG

Delivered online, 7.30AM to 8.30AM, weekdays

Tuesday 19 - Monday 25 October

To register, visit www.qassp.org.au and search "Designed InGenuity".



"Creativity is just connecting things. When you ask creative people how they did something, they feel a little guilty because they didn't really do it, they just saw something. It seemed obvious to them after a while. That's because they were able to connect experiences they've had and synthesise new things."

Steve Jobs
Co-Founder of Apple

THE STORY SO FAR

It started as an experiment.

What might happen if schools were modelled after the learning cultures of fast-growing technology companies?

In 2015 under the banner of Innovate Oregon, school leader Jami Fluke and agilest Thompson Morrison sparked a transformation in a rural high school in Dayton, on the US Pacific coast.

They co-created a new learning culture that sought to unleash the creative genius in each student, empowering them to be the makers and creators of tomorrow.

The Dayton Experiment shows the path to a new kind of education – one based on the mindset called ‘Agile’. At its core, it’s an experience of fast, iterative learning with a higher purpose.

In 2019, 21 members of a QASSP study tour visited Dayton Junior High and High School.

It was a watershed experience. The group observed tangible levels of student engagement and enthusiasm, learning that was palpable and a school community confident about the future.

The Pivot.

When the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted an intended return to this work as part of the 2020 study tour, Thompson Morrison challenged the group to pivot.

During five days over the Easter break, seven members of the original study tour group completed an online experiment in Designed InGenuity – a DIG. The group met daily via video conference: a ‘common ground’ subject was established and ‘scrambler’ topics assigned; research was conducted and connections made; stories of discovery and creation were shared, and insights reached.

Every participant rediscovered their joy in learning; curiosity was ignited.

An Outcome.

To date, more than 100 educators – school leaders and classroom teachers – have experienced the Designed InGenuity learning framework.

DIG trials are now underway in classrooms throughout Queensland schools, as together teachers and students reimagine education.

We’re building a movement to spread the impact of what was learned in Dayton.

To discover more, visit dig.wiki.innovateoregon.org