







Collective Knowledge Creation

Definition:

Collective knowledge creation is a social learning and teaching process rooted in the belief that all members in the community contribute valuable perspectives, understanding and expertise, and affirms the student's essential role in the creation of knowledge.

Have you ever experienced this? How is this different or unique from traditional teaching and learning?

Descriptors:

	Holds the belief that all students and families have knowledge and expertise to share with the learning community; all students and families are respected as content area resources
	Affirms families as authentic education partners who influence and inform teaching and learning
	Power and authority for knowledge creation and responsibility for teaching and learning are distributed among all members of the community; de-centers the teacher
	Learning is rooted in student inquiry
	Demonstrates how new ideas and learning are created and shared as a social construction
	Increases human knowledge and solutions; broadens the canon and curriculum to include traditionally marginalized narratives

Which of these is most difficult to implement in the learning environment? Why?

Equity issues in curriculum and instruction addressed by collective knowledge creation*:

- Deficit thinking
 - How can we catch deficit thinking and honor the strengths of every individual in the community?
- Lack of engagement
 - How can we change curriculum and pedagogy to increase engagement?
- Disconnect from purpose of education
 - How do we create a deeper connection to learning and the ultimate purpose(s) of knowledge?
- Whiteness-centered pedagogy and curriculum
 - How do we broaden the canon of knowledge and expand to traditionally marginalized narratives?

* This is not an exhaustive list!