



The PBL Learning Management Method

STARFISH EDUCATION

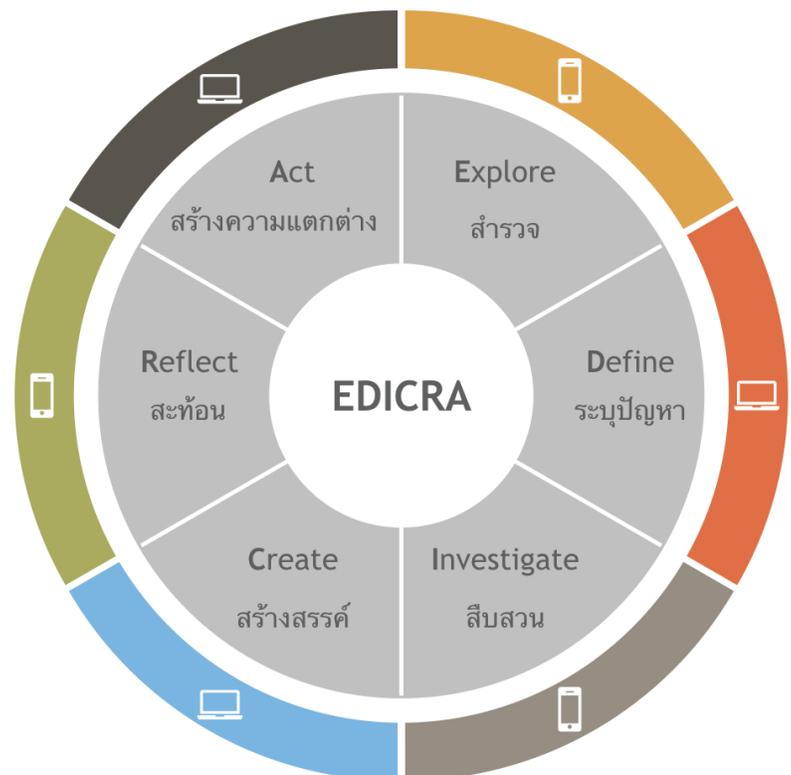
The PBL Learning Management Method

PBL is a student-centered, project based learning management method. Its aim is to provide a system for the logical thinking skills of students by organizing learning activities on various skills, such as the problem solving process, creative thinking, critical thinking, research and data collection, a group process of active learning, the recording and discussion of ideas, as well as the integration of knowledge into different subjects.

There are two different forms of PBL. The Problem Based Learning method is based on the real-life problems of primary school students at Baan Pla Dao School, while the Project Based Learning method creates a learning process that uses what kindergarten students are interested in at Baan Pla Dao School.

In order to practice these systematically, Baan Pla Dao School introduced the EDICRA process, which was invented as a guideline for project management by Dr. Prael Seributra, president of Starfish Country Home School Foundation.

EDICRA is an abbreviation for the 6-step process that it uses. Here are those steps:





Step 1 – Explore

This is the step in which students will explore outside of the classroom or outside of the school, depending on the various learning resources in the community. Students then can create new ideas and also may encounter problems in the community or in society.

Then, the students determine the problems that they are most interested in studying as a project topic. Students share their experiences, decide what parts of the topic they are curious about, and decide what they should know about the topic they have chosen. Students can choose to work in groups or solo as appropriate.



Step 2 – Define

This step is the process of defining the problem. It includes specifying the subject of research about the problem that the student is interested in, in order to define the scope of what needs to be studied.



Step 3 – Investigate

This step is the process of searching for information according to the subject of research which resulted from the Define process. There are many research sources available today, including various media outlets, the internet, books written by experts, teachers, parents and even friends.

In addition to searching for information to study, in this step students must also collect information and analyze data in order to find guidelines for solving the problem chosen as project topic, and to gain more knowledge about what the student is interested in.



step process

EDICRA



Step 4 – Create

This step is the process of creation in which the student's work can be a physical invention, methods of knowledge or ideas, or suggestions that can actually solve the problem chosen as project topic.



Step 5 – Reflect

This step is a process for students to take their results from the Create step to try and solve the problem, to measure the success of their creation, and to see whether it really works or not. This includes identifying problems and constraints encountered during work, as well as solutions. In the Reflect step, if the results from the Create step didn't turn out as planned then students can go back to edit or redo any previous steps.



Step 6 – Act

This final step is where students can make a positive impact by bringing the knowledge gained from the PBL process to present to others, and to create awareness by using various methods such as creating video clips, or arranging exhibitions and inviting parents, teachers, fellow students and guests to attend. The aim is to use the results of the process to benefit society.

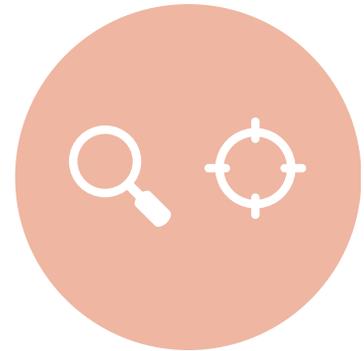
Project Based Learning

Project Based Learning is the PBL learning management system used for kindergarten students. Baan Pla Dao School uses the EDICRA process as a guideline for learning management, but shortens the process into 3 phases for easier learning and teaching for young children. It has the following components:

Phase 1 – Choose Project Topic

This phase consolidates the Explore and Define steps from EDICRA. Kindergarten students will explore new things around them, such as walking around the school, listening to stories, etc. The teacher will then chat with students, ask questions about various subjects and encourage students to comment on what they are most interested in learning. The students then vote to select one topic that the entire classroom will then learn together for the semester.

After the topic is chosen, the teacher will again ask stimulating questions and encourage students to comment on what they would like to learn about this project topic. The teacher also helps to supplement the topic with additional knowledge that students should know about.



Phase 2 – Research Information

The teacher will use what students want to learn and what students should know as items for research, and transfer these to students to learn. Additionally, students may be able to help with the research as well; teachers can invite speakers to give knowledge to the class, students can learn through experimentation, and onsite study trips can allow students to see topics that they are interested in, which enables them to learn from seeing real-life actions (Active Learning). All of this is done in parallel with the Create step from EDICRA. The results of the creation process can convey what knowledge the students have received.



Phase 3 – Project Summary

During this phase, teachers and students will join in discussions to reflect on the work thus far. They identify problems and constraints in studying the project topic, as well as ways to solve them. After that, an exhibition will be held to present the work to parents, teachers, fellow students and guests.



Assessment

Assessments for both kindergarten and primary school levels can be done in a variety of ways, with an emphasis on the measurement of changes. This includes the observation of behaviors, query evaluation forms, performance evaluation forms, and the evaluation of presentations. Additionally, **the Starfish Class application** can be used as a tool for teachers to monitor such results, and can score students based on improved characteristic changes during their studies.