Using technology to facilitate enhanced student engagement and participation in learning chemistry

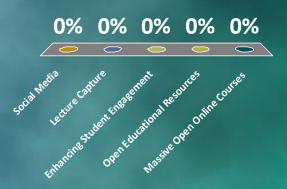
Prof Simon Lancaster University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom Education Division Council, Royal Society of Chemistry





What would you like me to cover?

- A. Social Media
- B. Lecture Capture
- C. Enhancing Student Engagement
- D. Open Educational Resources
- E. Massive Open Online Courses



The objectives of education are to develop

- A. critical thinking
- B. problem solving skills
- C. interpersonal skills
- D. the ability to retain information long enough to pass examinations
- E. logical and independent thought
- F. communication and information management skills
- G. intellectual curiosity
- H. creativity
- I. ethical awareness, integrity and tolerance

The Lecture



More than anecdotal evidence

Scott Freeman, Sarah L. Eddy, Miles McDonough, Michelle K. Smith, Nnadozie Okoroafor, Hannah Jordt, and Mary Pat Wenderoth Active learning increases student performance in science, engineering, and mathematics PNAS 2014, 111, 8410–8415 doi:10.1073/pnas.131903011

Freshers 'forget 60% of their A-level studies'

"Secondary education has become increasingly politicised, which involves greater emphasis on testing and results of tests" Dr Harriet Jones, University of East Anglia

Flipping: A Concept not a Recipe

- Choose an open educational resource (OER)?
- Ask students to prepare a ScoopIt?
- Screencast?

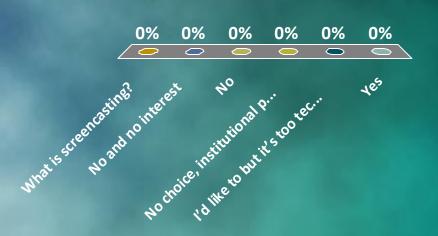
Preparation

Engagement

- Challenge your students
- Student source your questions and your answers?
- React to events

Do you Screencast?

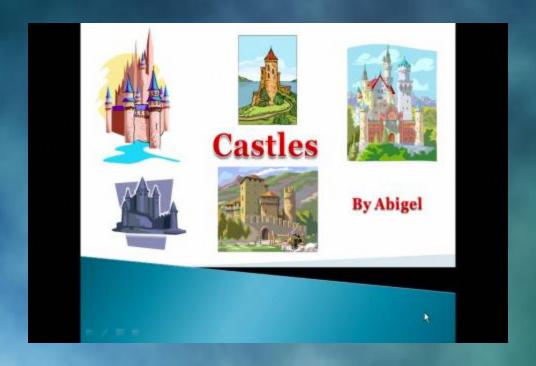
- A. What is screencasting?
- B. No and no interest
- C. No
- D. No choice, institutional policy
- E. I'd like to but it's too technically difficult
- F. Yes



'Screencasting versus Lecture capture'?

- A screencast is a recording of the evolving image on the screen during a presentation synchronised with the speaker's audio narration.
- We record using Camtasia Studio but other solutions are available.

Simple Screencasting



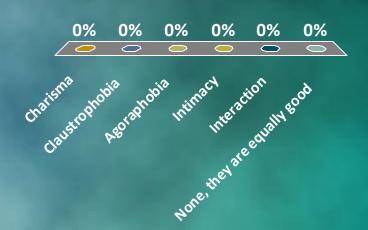
Strengths and Weaknesses

- Learning aid
- Assistance for students with disabilities and learning difficulties
- Revision aid
- Illness contingency
- Self observation
- Recording 'quality control'

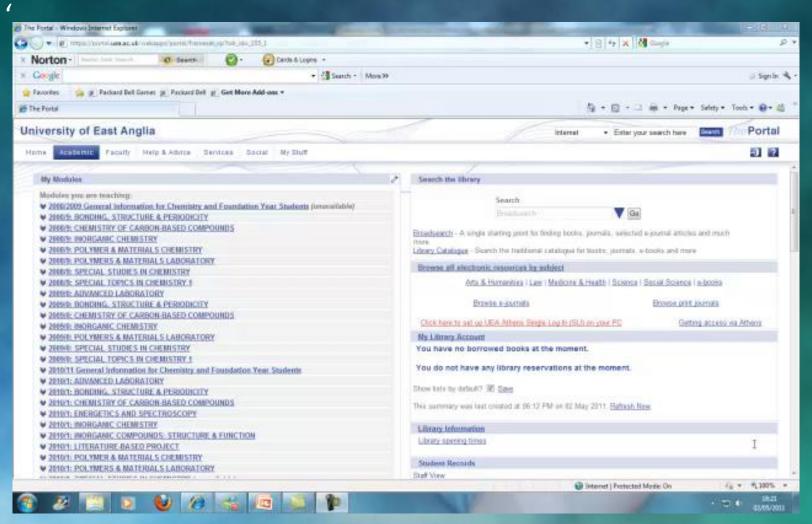
- Logistics and resources
- Time Consuming
 - Preparation
 - Editing
 - File creation and maintenance
- Discourages lecture attendance?
- Discourages note taking?
- Lazy revision?

What is absent in a screencast versus a live lesson?

- A. Charisma
- B. Claustrophobia
- C. Agoraphobia
- D. Intimacy
- E. Interaction
- F. None, they are equally good



'Vignette': covering a critical concept augmented by an interactive component



Prezi

Prezi is an alternative presentation tool that allows students to follow a non-linear route; in this case between vignettes on aspects of the course.



Student comments on Faculty Authored Vignettes

- "Staff vignettes are great revision tools because they are recorded well and the information is clear and concise!"
- "Good revision tool because if you haven't completely understood something in the lecture or when revising then you can go to that place in the vignette and listen to the explanation again!"
- "All lecturers should do it"
- "Would be more effective if lectures were recorded as vignettes that are only 5 minutes long"

Do you ask your students to prepare and present presentations?

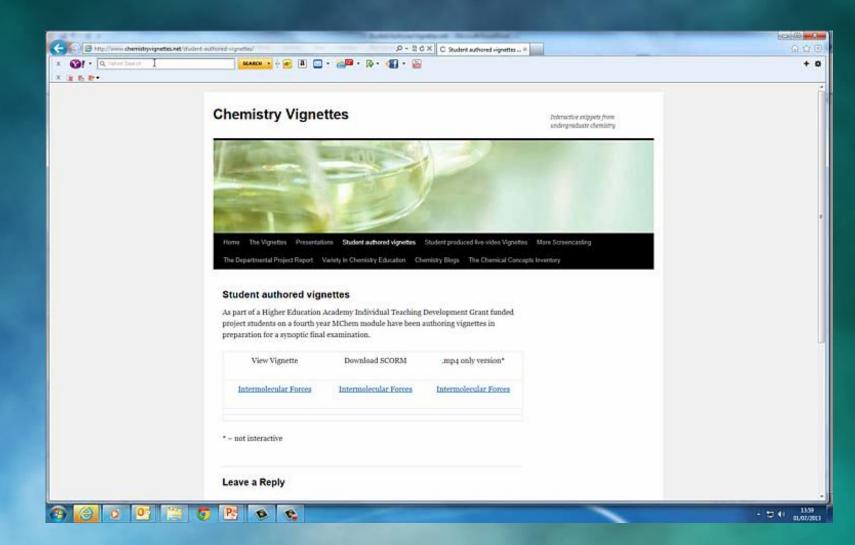
- A. Yes
- B. No



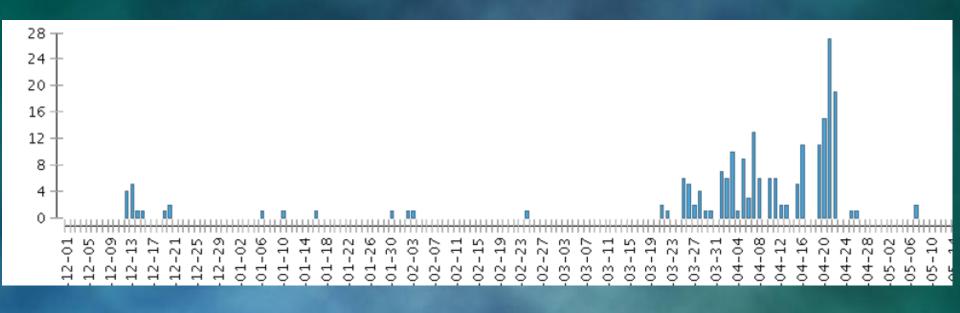
The student authored vignette model

- 1. The students are paired and allocated a revision topic.
- Each student pair prepares a presentation to be critiqued by their peers and instructors.
- 3. Each pair delivers a presentation to their peers and the session is captured using Camtasia Studio.
- 4. Each student pair creates a vignette from their screencast or a subsequent recording.
- 5. The student authored vignettes are published online to be used as a revision tool.

Intermolecular Forces



Uptake



When was the exam?

Evaluation quotes

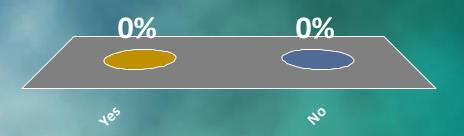
- "Thought about information in a different way when preparing interactive questions"
- "You can add more to existing presentation which is good"
- "Made you go over material you might have forgotten"
- "Had lecture notes and additional material (narration)"
- "Highlights key areas"

- "No experience made preparation difficult"
- "Students don't have a lot of time to do it. Takes longer than actual Powerpoint"
- "Need more Camtasia experience/easier software"
- "Very good revision tool if a lot of effort is put into producing it"

Are you Wedded to content?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No





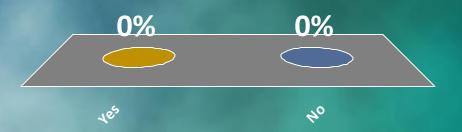
Do wish you had more time for interaction?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No



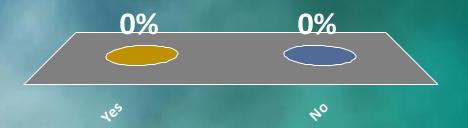
Are there parts of the course students "Don't get"?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No



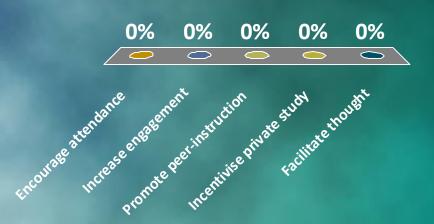
Are you ever frustrated by persistent misconceptions?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No



What would you like to do to improve learning?

- 1. Encourage attendance
- 2. Increase engagement
- 3. Promote peer-instruction
- 4. Incentivise private study
- 5. Facilitate thought



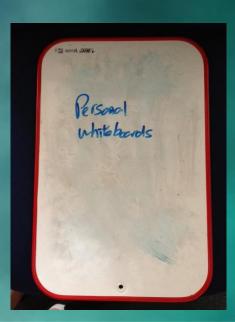
Our model of lecture flipping

- Students are strongly encouraged to watch a screencast recording of the (previous year's) lecture the flipped lecture is replacing.
- They attend the timetabled teaching slot and are engaged in as interactive and as 'challenging' a session as the 'lecturer' can muster using every audience participation device at their disposal.

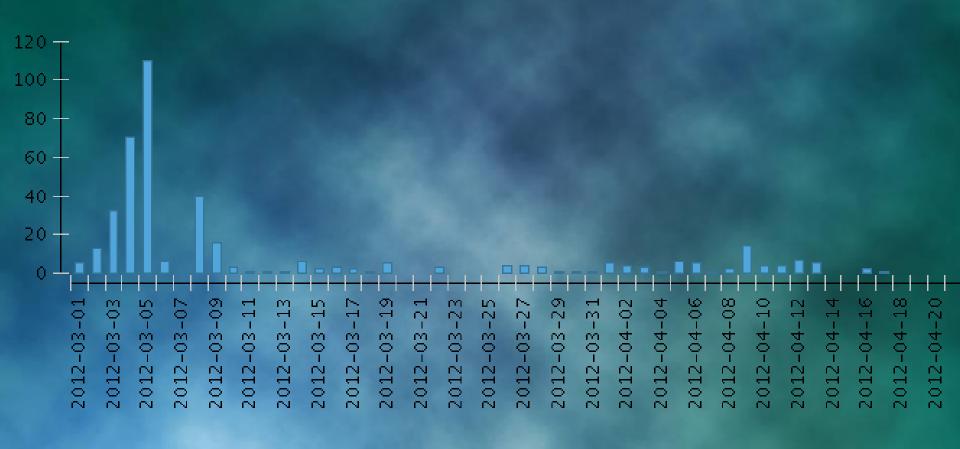








Uptake



Which are genuine student evaluation comments?

- 1. A lot of the descriptive chemistry was very dry and essentially boring. It is hard to teach this kind of material but the 'flipped lectures' seemed to combat this.
- 2. I think the 'flipped' lectures run by Dr. Lancaster were a really good idea and I felt more engaged in the module.
- 3. I appreciated Dr Lancaster's efforts to make the lectures interesting and engaging in a modern way. The 'flipped' lectures were very successful.
- 4. I really enjoyed the flipped lectures and find that revising that material is much easier.
- 5. The flipped-lectures are a definite step in the right direction, away from archaic lectures with little or no mental stimulus, towards a more interactive learning experience that maximises learning outcome!
- 6. They were good fun as it was nice to have interaction with the lecture as opposed to just being talked at, it was also nice having knowledge of what you were talking about as we had already gone through the material!
- 7. I think the flipped lectures were a really good idea because it was a more interactive way to engage students into learning, rather than the repetitive routine of having to listen to the lecturer work through a PowerPoint presentation for an hour.

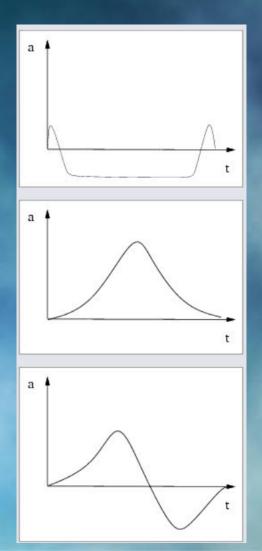
What is the objective of a question posed during a flipped session?



A ball initially at rest in the hand, is thrown upwards, comes back down and is caught.

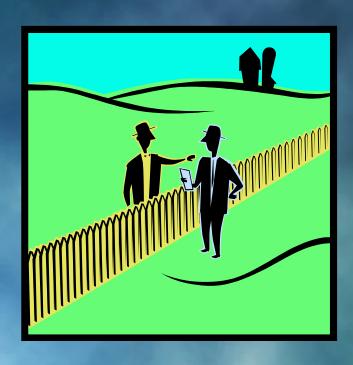
Which of the following represents a plausible graph of vertical acceleration against time?

- 1. Graph 1
- 2. Graph 2
- 3. Graph 3





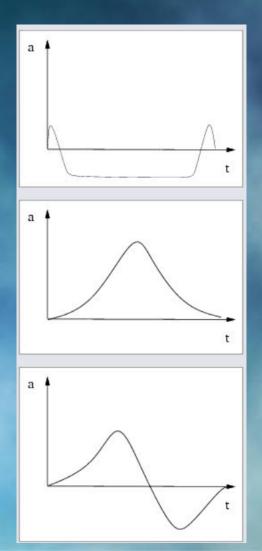
Turn to your neighbour



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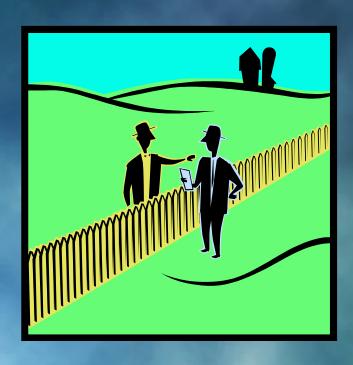


Where does most of the substance of a mature oak tree come from?

- The acorn
- 2. Soil
- 3. Rain
- 4. Air



Turn to your neighbour



Where does most of the substance of a mature oak tree come from?

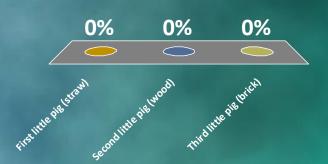
- The acorn
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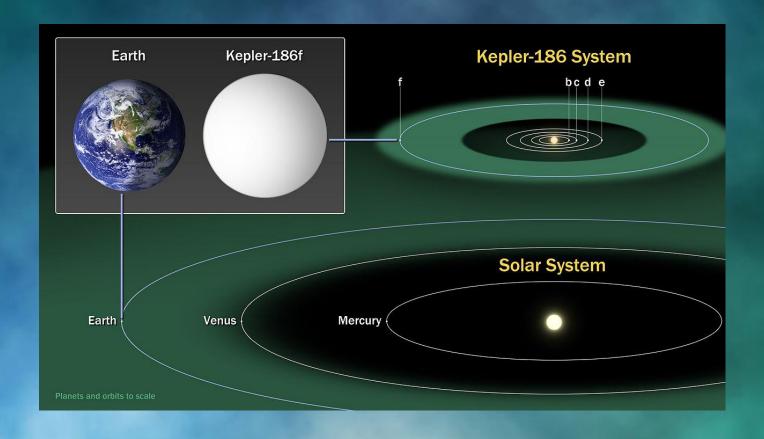
Which one of the three little pigs built the most environmentally sustainable house?

- A. First little pig (straw)
- B. Second little pig (wood)
- C. Third little pig (brick)





The Goldilocks Zone



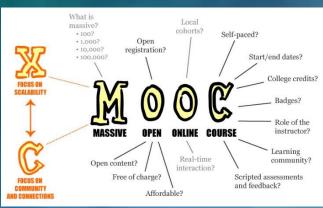
Who is best placed to determine the Goldilocks

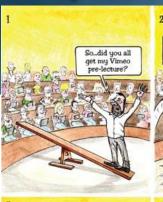


Student Sourcing Questions?

- Be open to students suggestions
- Encourage students to submit questions to use within flipped sessions
- Use Peerwise to structure, screen and select questions in the sweet spot for peer instruction
- Seek answers from students and even draft new questions 'on the hoof'

The Question is Key











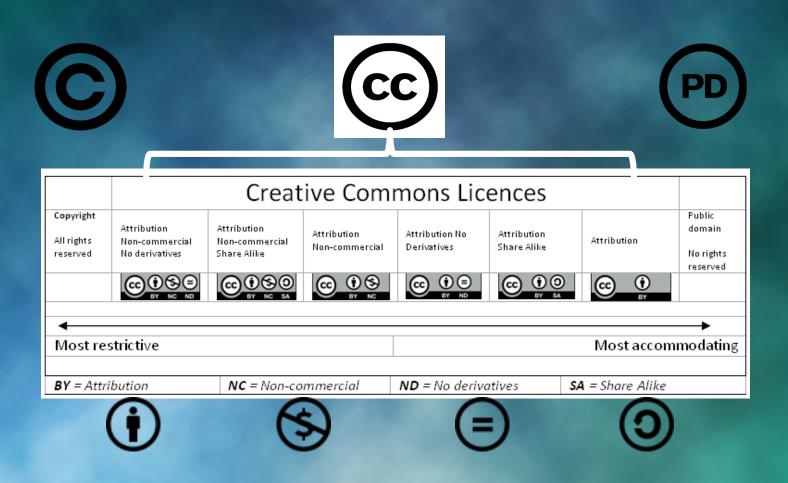


What is the default copyright status of everything published on the internet?

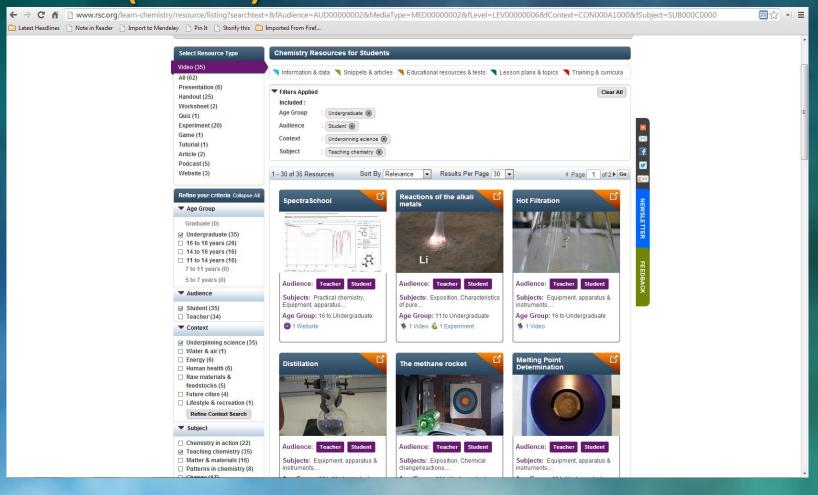


Your work is automatically protected under copyright!

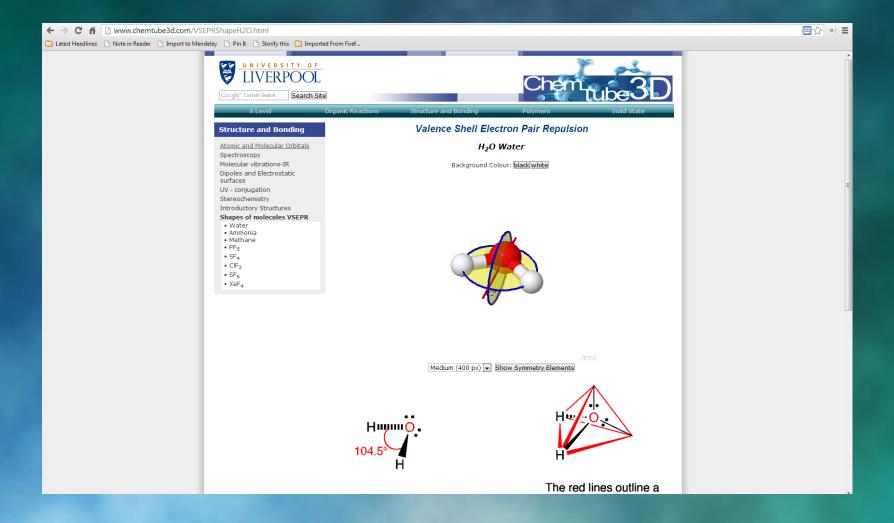
Alternative copyright Licensing



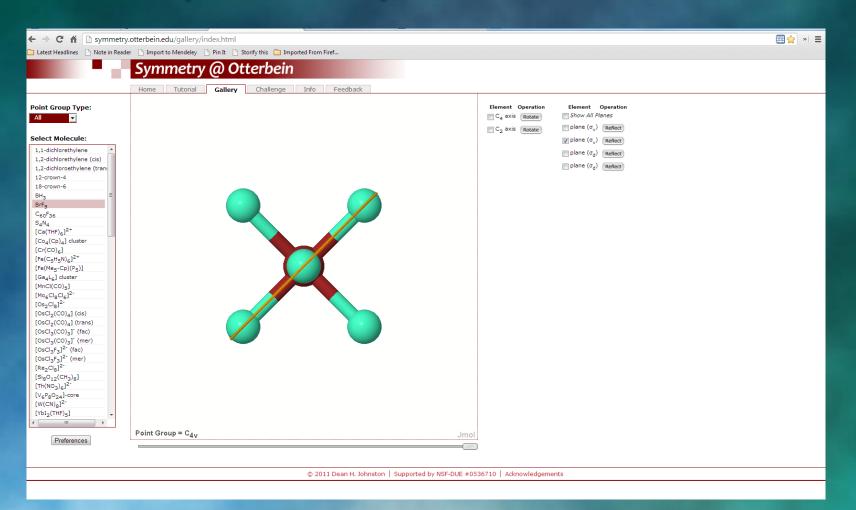
Open Educational Resources (OERs)



ChemTube3D



Symmetry at Otterbein



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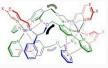


Metallohelices: design, self-assembly, biomedicine

Curated by Scott Group



Nature Chemistry: Asymmetric triplex metallohelices with high and selective activity against cancer cells



From www.nature.com - August 3,

Water-soluble metallohelices containing an antiparallel headto-head-to-tail arrangement of strands are reported. This amphipathic functional topology is akin to that of host-defence

peptides. The metallohelices show high and selective toxicity to a cancer cell line, causing dramatic changes in the cell cycle without DNA damage. In contrast, there is no significant toxicity to MRSA and Escherichia coli."

Scott Group's insight:

We describe a method by which amphipathic metallohelices with peptidomimetic structures can be designed and prepared. A large range of compounds produced includes some highly selective anticancer candidates.



Meet the 'Lego Death Star' **Designed to Kill Cancer Dead**



From motherboard.vice.com - August 6, 4:23 PM Self-assembling molecules promise to fortify the body's natural anti-cancer defenses."

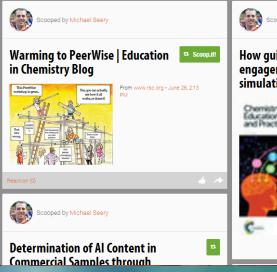


Genetic Eng & Biotech News: Stable Metallohelices Self-Assemble, Fight Cancer



Chemed | Chemistry Education

Interesting chem ed links. Especially interested in transition from school to college, laboratory learning and technology in education. I only scoop things I've read and find useful and/or interesting. Follow @Chem Ed Links Curated by Michael Seery

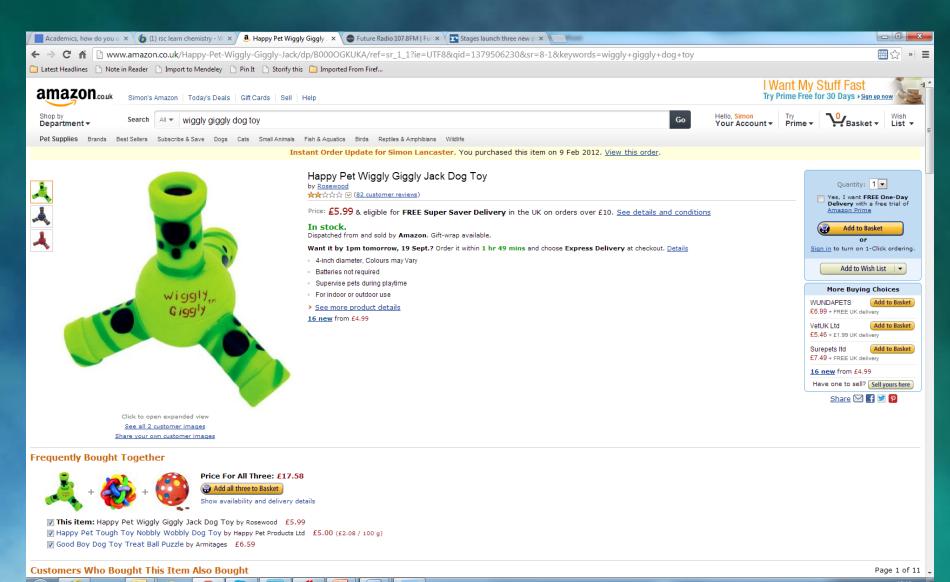




From pubs.rsc.org - June 19, 3:16

" We studied how students engaged with an interactive simulation in a classroom setting and how that engagement was affected by the design of a guiding activity. Students (n = 210) completed a written activity using an interactive simulation in second semester undergraduate general chemistry recitations. The s"

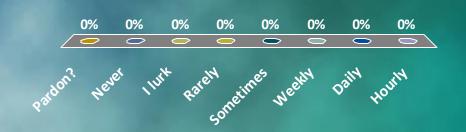
Amazon?



13:10 18/09/20

Do you Tweet?

- A. Pardon?
- B. Never
- C. I lurk
- D. Rarely
- E. Sometimes
- F. Weekly
- G. Daily
- H. Hourly



@S_J_Lancaster: Tweeting

"Twitter is a website, owned and operated by Twitter Inc., which offers a social networking and microblogging service, enabling its users to send and read messages called tweets. Tweets are text-based posts of up to 140 characters displayed on the user's profile page."
Wikipedia,

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twitter, accessed 1/5/2011.

- Reasons to Tweet:
 - 1. To keep in touch with the subject / education community.
 - 2. To facilitate your life.
 - 3. To provide a novel and very immediate means of communication with students over a particular topic or module.

Why should anyone tweet?

A Teacher's Perspective

To provide a novel and very immediate means of communication with students over a particular topic or module.

Building a network.

https://followerwonk.com/analyze/@S_J_L ancaster?op=fl Twitter activity, and more.

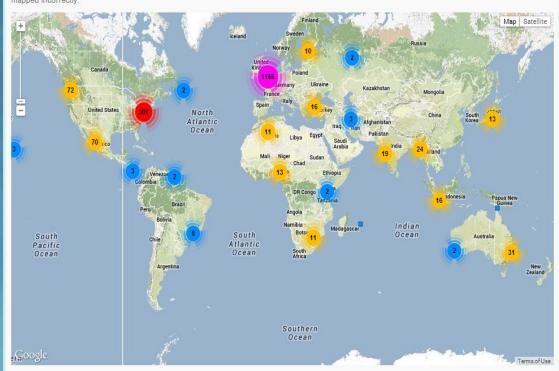
Next to each chart, you will find links that allow you to explore specific users in each segment. You can further sort these pop-up lists of users by follower count, tweet count, and so on.

Sample size: 2,636 followers of @S_J_Lancaster - view all »

| Simon Lancaster | Social Authority: 49 | Followers: 2,636 | Days on: 1,216 |

Mapped locations of S_J_Lancaster's followers

Using the location field in Twitter accounts, we try to approximate the geographic location of up to 5,000 users and map them for you. This is an inexact procedure and so some points may be mapped incorrectly.



Interacting with Current Students @CHE2C32 - Case Study

- Example tweets from @CHE2C32 :
 - "Super-toxic" dimethylmercury is this week's Chemistry in its element #podcast subject. Careful now! http://bit.ly/cHswSp
 - Transformation of beta tin into alpha modification. https://vine.co/v/Mv6F2gIXnOX
 - Periodic Table graphic is finally complete! Data for each element, coloured to indicate trends http://wp.me/p4aPLT-dE pic.twitter.com/qewjkKdzZW
 - "I learned very early the difference between knowing the name of something and knowing something." ~Richard P. Feynman

Interacting with Current Students @CHE2C32 – Crowd Sourcing

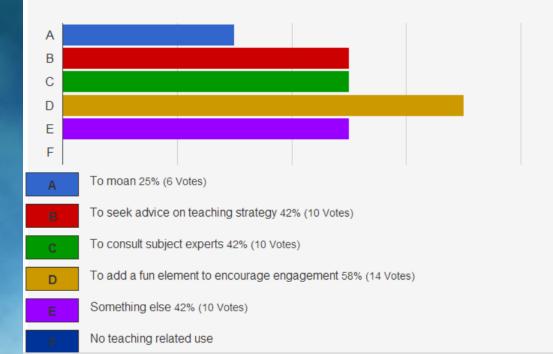
- Example tweets from followers (students):
 - @CHE2C32 made some great black shiny crystals today :D
 - @CHE2C32 Tutorial work and dolly mixtures happy times :)
 - @CHE2C32 is in the house and my experiment chooses this time to start going wrong. Thank you God.
 - @CHE2C32 Annoyed at some feedback on my topic 3 and I have another 3 lab reports to finish!
 - I don't think iv'e seen a phosphorus NMR spectra before
 @CHE2C32

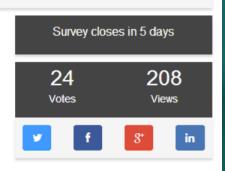
How do teachers use Twitter?

Teachers, how do you utilise Twitter?

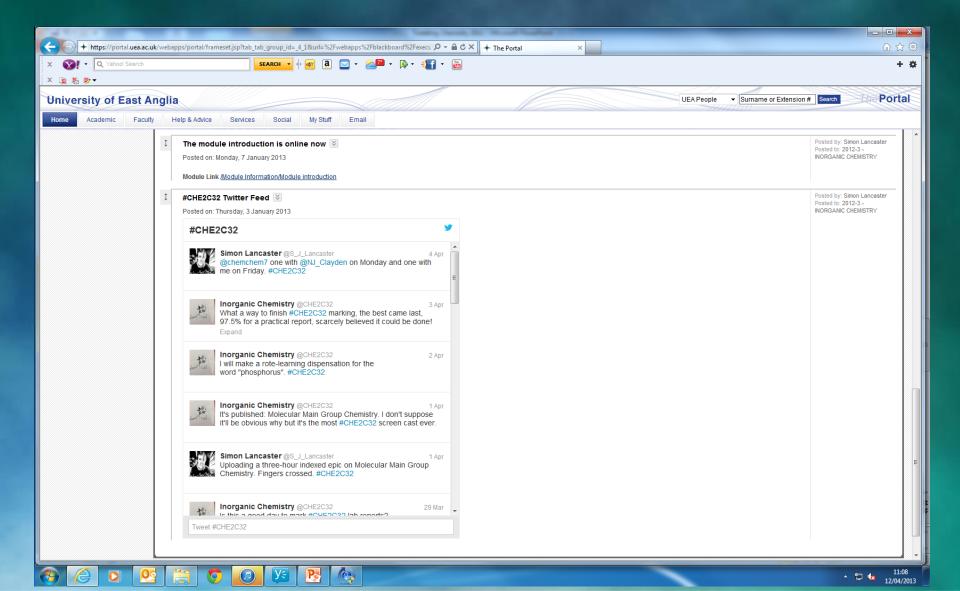
The view of teachers working at any level of the education system are welcomed.

Thank you for answering this question, the results will be presented (without attribution) at #ueateach14 on June 6th



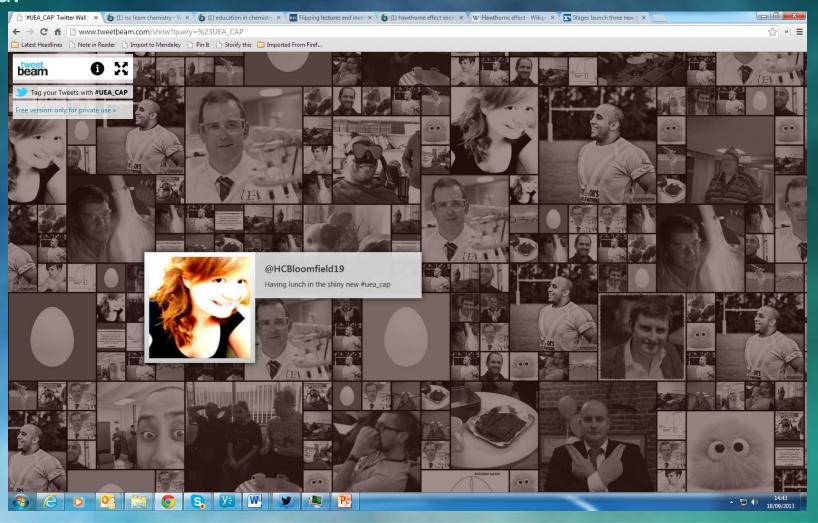


Widgets



Tweetbeam

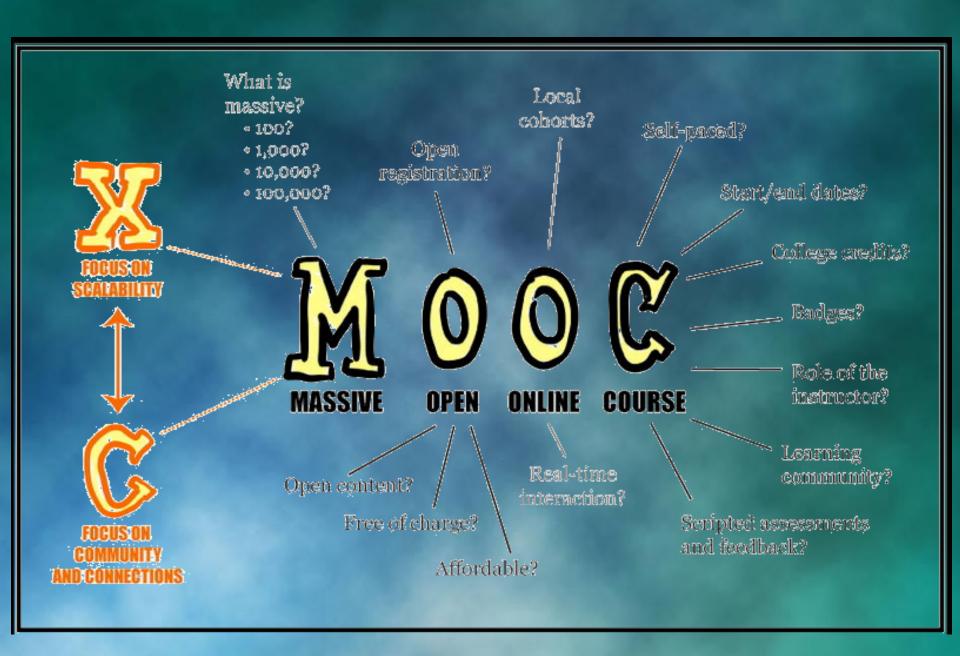
There are many (web) apps designed to project a real-time Twitter-feed.



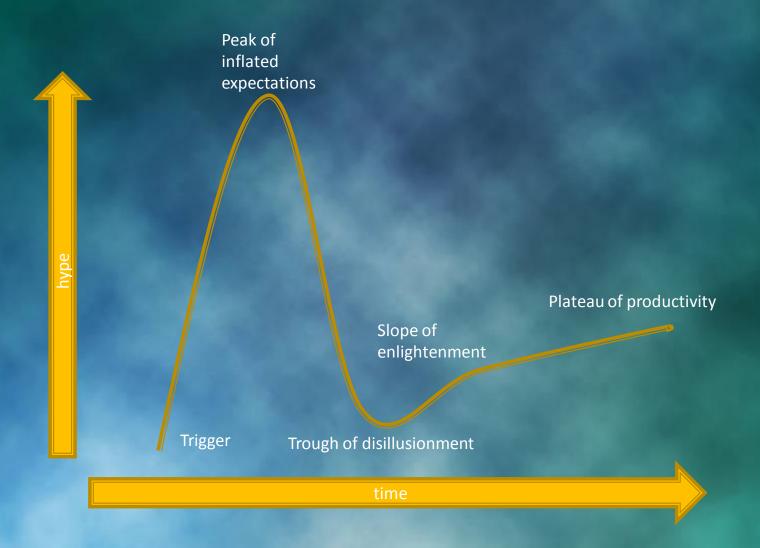
Storify

How do we combat the transient nature of the Twitter feed and make a lasting record?





Technology Hype Cycle



Conclusions Suggestions

- Ask what you are adding by expecting your students to attend
- Question everything, especially the questions
- Seek (possible) answers from the floor
- Be prepare to relinquish some control

Acknowledgements

- The Royal Society of Chemistry
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- Higher Education Academy
- Higher Education Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics
- University of East Anglia