

# Blogs in the Classroom: Using Technology to Deliver Inquiry Instruction

By Patrick Davis

# Contact and Classes

- Class web site: [www.mrdfourth90.com](http://www.mrdfourth90.com)  
(tutorials)
- Email: [pdavis90@comcast.net](mailto:pdavis90@comcast.net)
- Former class: [Edutrain](#) This may be a help  
for self study

# Technology Today

- Karl Fisch- [“Did You Know?”](#)
- [Miss Dhandra’s Class](#)
- [Mrs. Duenas’s Class](#)

# Course Prospectus

1. What are blogs?
  1. Define blogs
2. What is inquiry-based instruction?
  1. Wikipedia
  2. Other definitions
3. Blogs
  1. Illustrations
  2. My blog
  3. Inquiry-based instruction
    1. Why inquiry?
  4. How to build blogs

# What are blogs?

- Blog- short for weB LOG
- Places to put thoughts, pictures and other irate ramblings
- "Blogging is about the depth of thought and the creation of a critical document that pushes others to think at greater depths about an idea, concept, or situation." Ryan Bretag
- U-tube is sort of a visual off-shoot of blogs

# What are blogs?

- In education there is a rapidly growing area where educators are communicating and trying to help each other
- Check out this [example](#)
- Spend a few minutes looking at the page

# Blogs

- Blogs are becoming common for teachers to have for their classes
- I predict that they will soon become the norm for teachers
- [Kindergarten](#) blog
- [Sixth grade](#) blog
- [Blogging 101-](#) notice all the links

# Blogs

- [Alice Mercer's](#) wonderful site- notice all the pictures
- My [blog](#)

# How to build a blog

- [WordPress](#) is the place to get started
- Take a few minutes and read about WordPress
- [Edublogs.org](#) here
  - This site is for classroom teachers

# How to build a blog

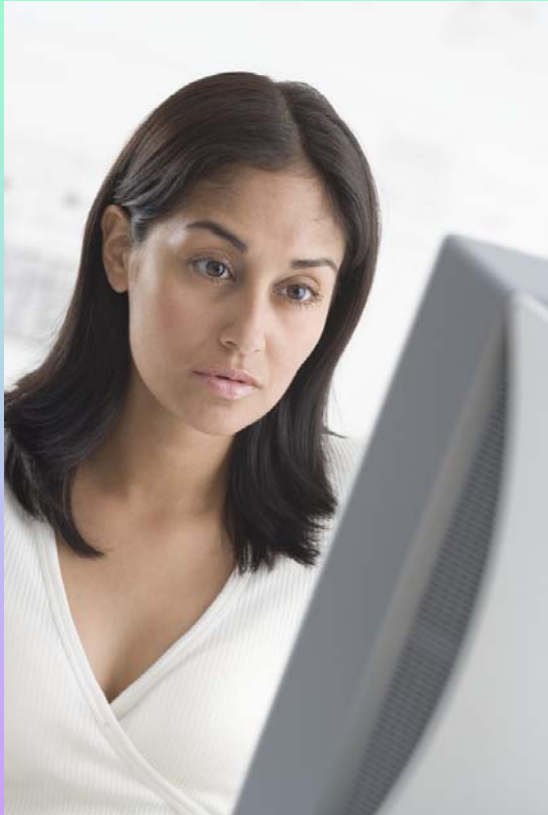
- [Edublogs](#) - just for teachers
  - Let's take the tour
- Check out the ten ways to use edublogs in your classroom

# How to build a blog

- Setting preferences:
  - Edublogs can be set to where you preview comments
  - The comments are sent to your email address, so you are able to check content

# How to build a blog

- Videos to get you started are [here](#)



# Time to Get Started

- Go to Edublogs and start enrolling

# What is inquiry based ed?

Alan Colburn

California State University-

This paper focuses on inquiry as teaching technique, which I am calling inquiry-based instruction: the creation of a classroom where students are engaged in (essentially) open-ended, student-centered, hands-on activities. Students investigate natural phenomena, using their background knowledge and experiences. The things students do include posing questions, solving problems, and creating answers or tentative generalizations.

# What is inquiry based ed?

- [Wikipedia](#)
  - **Inquiry-based instruction** is a teaching technique in which teachers create situations in which students are to solve problems. Lessons are designed so that students make connections to previous knowledge, bring their own questions to learning, investigate to satisfy their own questions and design ways to try out their ideas.

# What is inquiry based ed?

- Rhode Island gives this [definition](#).

# What is inquiry-based-ed?

1. Inquiry education can be in any subject, not just science.
2. Inquiry education poses questions and leaves the students to find answers.
3. There needs to be age-appropriate challenges and helps to the questions or problems the children are trying to solve.

# Why inquiry based education?

1. Inquiry based education has a higher degree of interest to the children
2. They maximize their freedom of choice
3. Children tend to “own” their project
4. Children feel both enabled and validated
5. See [movie](#) clip

# Examples of Inquiry

- Click [here](#)
- Take a few minutes and investigate what fourth graders can actually do when they become enthused

# Teacher Inquiry

- A new definition?
- Teacher-based inquiry
  - Def. The teacher is constantly wondering if there is a better way for students to master the standards.
  - Observation: The good teacher spends his life trying to find those “better” ways