Using wiki for within and between group collaboration and collective knowledge building

Abstract: Wiki, one of the most popular web 2.0 tools, is becoming increasingly used in k-12 and high education. A recent study (Reich, Murnane & Willett, 2012) in Educational Researcher examining a representative sample of nearly 180,000 wiki usage in k-12, however, found that the majority of the wiki reviewed did not provide opportunities for students to develop 21st century skills such as expert thinking, complex communication, and new media literacy and that, surprisingly, only 1% encouraged collaborative student learning. This presentation will showcase how three classes at three different levels of education (one 5th grade, one high school, and another graduate level) used wiki in building collective knowledge through active participation and collaboration within and between groups. Patterns of similarities and differences will be discussed.

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