current events for the curious classroom.

Melissa is a teacher librarian in West Hartford, CT. She earned her B.A. in elementary education from St. Cloud State University, an M.A. in elementary education from Northern Arizona University, an M.A. in educational psychology/gifted and talented from the University of Connecticut, and her LMS certification from the ARCLMS program. She is the vice president of the Connecticut Association of School Librarians, a member of the Customer Advisory Board for Scholastic Book Fairs, a 2019 AASL Social Media Superstar Reader Leader finalist, and her most recent publication was an article in the October issue of School Library Connection entitled, Create a Culture of Reading.

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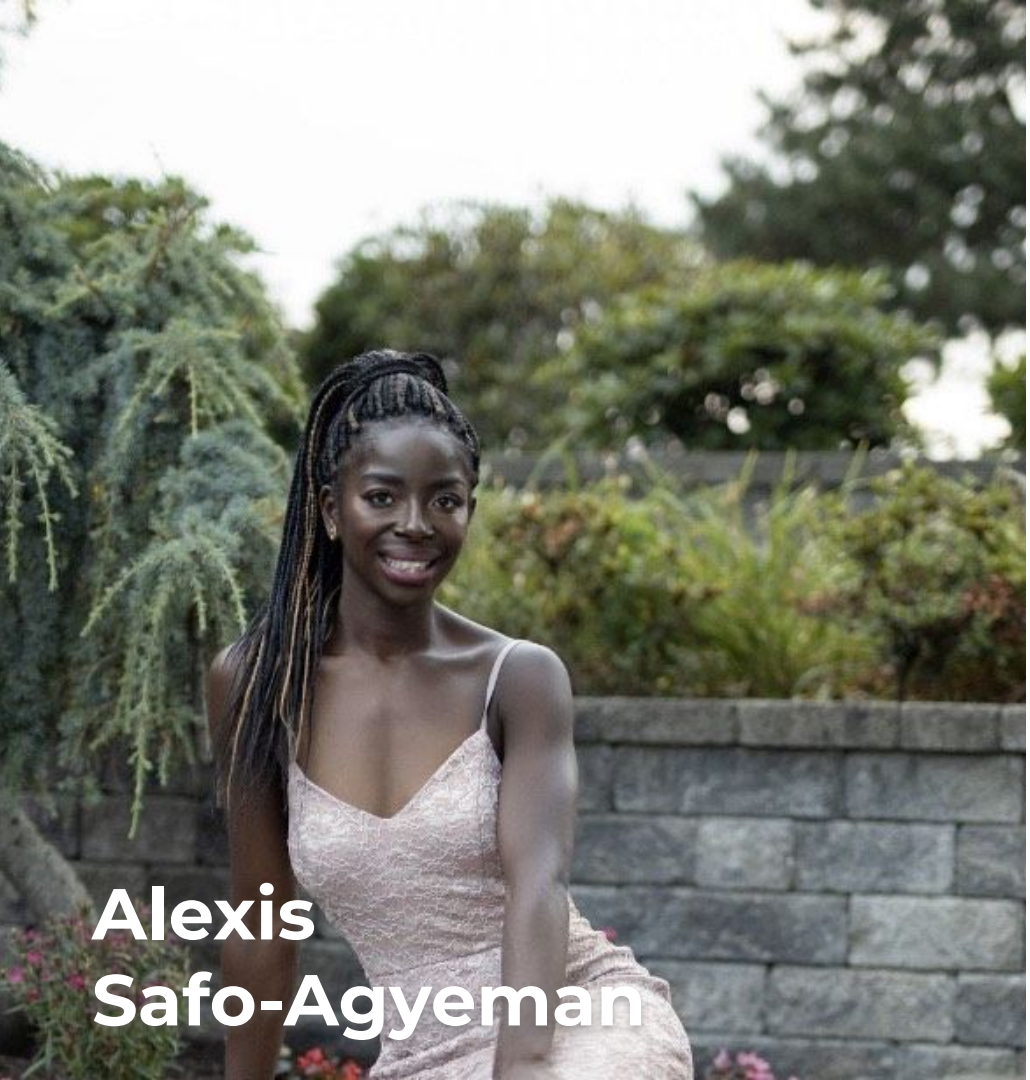

Alexis has a dual B.S. from Eastern Connecticut State University in Communications and Sociology, and attended Bay Path University where she received her M.S in Communications. Alexis has worn many hats in the education world and especially enjoyed her time on the board of directors for Connecticut Association for Gifted and Talented. Alexis found herself advocating for change in education, most recently as the program facilitator for the adult education program at the Urban League of Greater Hartford and a program facilitator for Metropolitan Learning Center. Alongside her passion for education, Alexis is a former cheerleader and longtime coach who was compelled to open a cheerleading training center to give athletes of all abilities and backgrounds an opportunity to take part in her program.

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agenda

- introductions
- intro to Thinkalong
- how to use it:
  investigate, contemplate, debate!
- proof that it works
- q + a
- closing thoughts

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whooooooo are you?

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- Thinkalong™ is a free educational service of Connecticut Public
- Thinkalong™ uses a media literacy framework derived from the research of the Center for Media Literacy
- Thinkalong™ meets the **State of Connecticut Student Data Privacy Policy** and is listed on the **CT Learning Hub**.

thinkalong™.org

Should we lower the voting age?

start thinking ›

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FROM SCRATCH
Should We Let 12-Year-Olds Vote?
PBS
Watch later
Share
LET ME VOTE!!
investigate
thinkalong

Thinkalong activities are informed by:

5 Core Concepts / 5 Key Questions

Center for Media Literacy ©2002-2020

www.medialit.org

Who created this message?

Why is this message being sent?

?

What creative techniques are used to attract my attention?

What lifestyles, values, and points of view are represented in, or omitted from, this message?

How might different people understand this message differently from me?

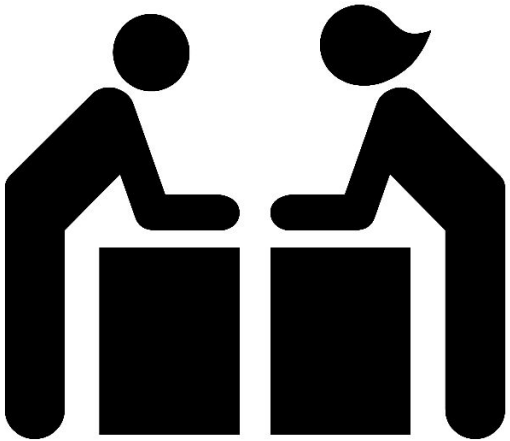
contemplate

thinkalong™

Should we lower the voting age?

Pro Arguments *

Con Arguments *



debate

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your thoughts

- How would you have students prepare for a structured discussion using these resources?
- How can you engage students in authentic learning experiences using Thinkalong?
- What are some possible challenges you might experience when planning and implementing Thinkalong in your classroom?

schoolwide enrichment model (sem)+ thinkalong

Type I Experiences

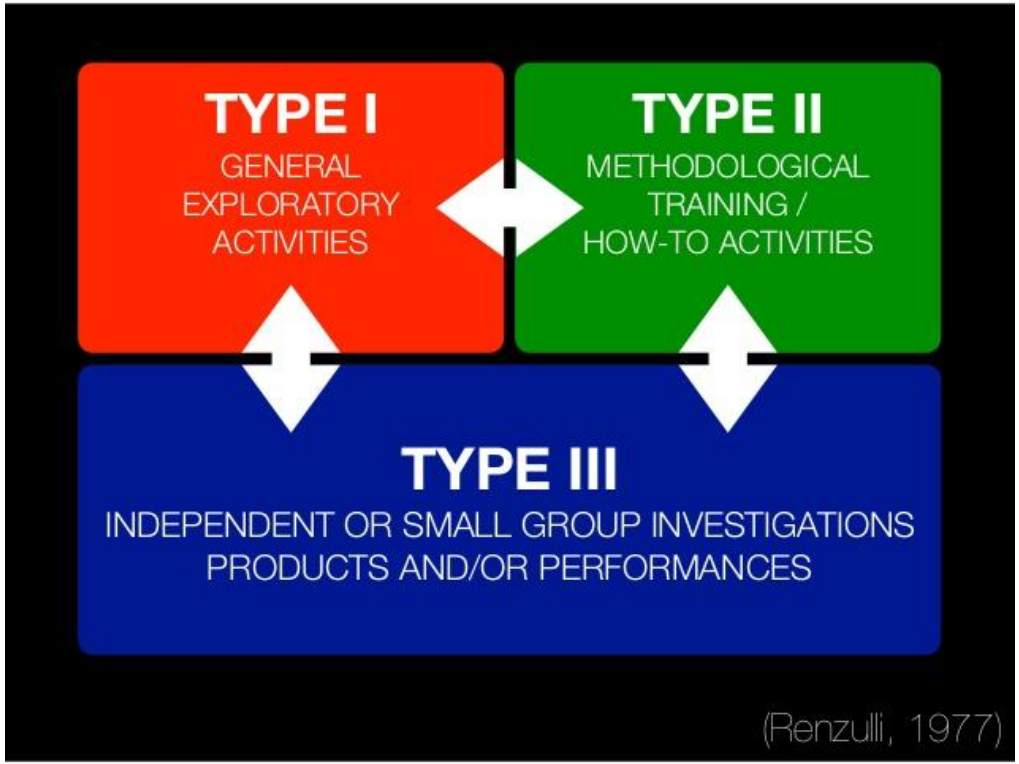
- Preview all module topics

Type II Experiences

- Structured discussion

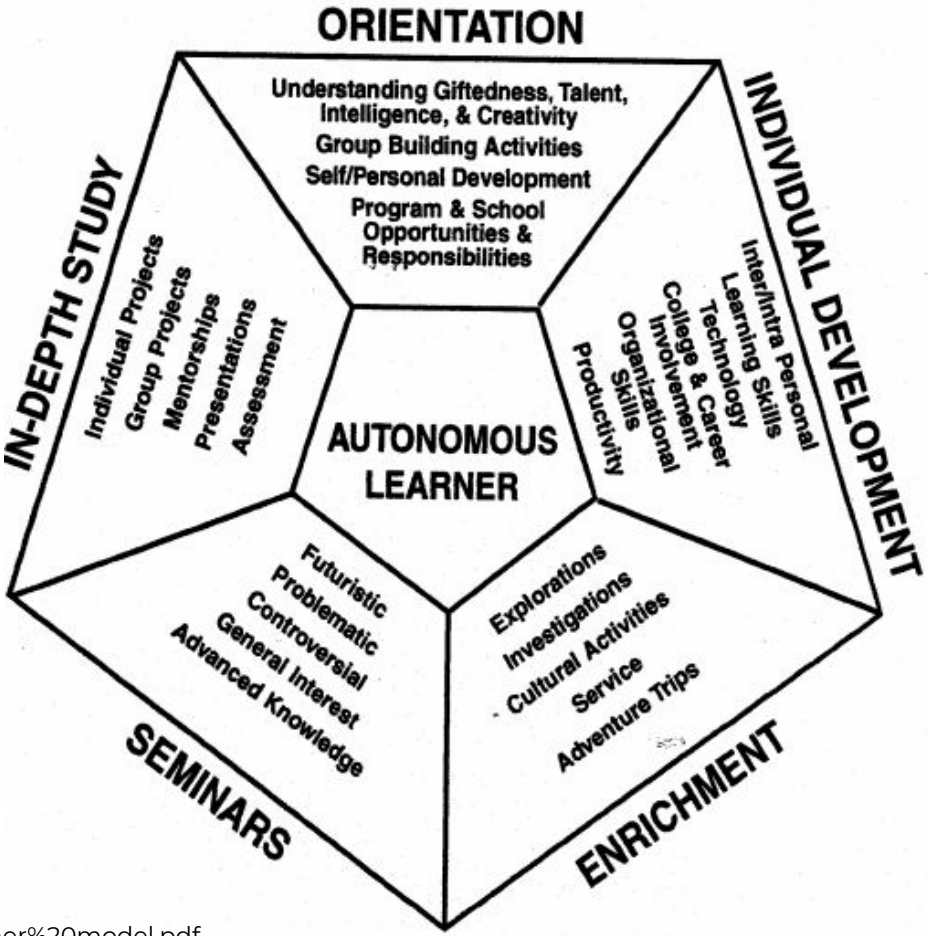
Type III Experience

- Student-generated modules



other models

- Discover Model by June Maker
- Multiple Menu Model
- Integrated Curriculum Model
- Autonomous Learner Model

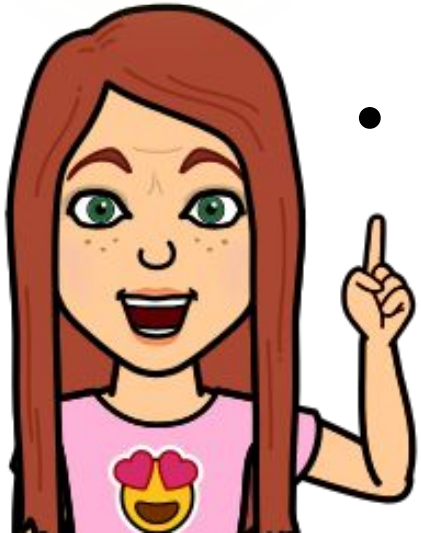


Source: https://uncw.edu/ed/aig/documents/2017/autonomous%20learner%20model.pdf

debate

1. Take a Poll
2. Create Pro/Con Teams
3. Make a Claim
4. Ask Questions
5. Discuss the Claims
6. Present a Response
7. Take Another Poll

your thoughts



- What guiding questions do you and your students want to see featured in Thinkalong?
- What guiding questions do you find essential to discuss with learners?
- How can you utilize Thinkalong and its components/structure/format to engage your learners in higher order learning and thinking?

q & a

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