

## Share

### Community of practice (CoP)

Between Guru (teacher) and Govind (almighty), the Indian folk wisdom has it, the teacher is venerated more for he is the one who tells us the Truth.

“A teacher can never truly teach unless he is still learning himself. A lamp can never light another lamp unless it continues to burn its own flame...”

- Rabindranath Tagore on the ideal teacher

### Teacher as change agent: The CoP way

Good teacher quality is an imperative to meet the changing educational landscape, especially in the post-covid world. Educationists world over now agree that we never think alone.

“Community of practice” is of relatively recent term, even though the phenomenon it refers to is the age-old understanding that ‘learning is a collective endeavour’.

A community of practice (CoP) is a group of people who "share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly".<sup>1</sup> In the practice of teaching – learning the community of teachers learn better collectively. In fact, as teachers and students are co-creators of knowledge, it is a whole cohesive community of learners that constitutes CoP.

Teachers play a crucial role in mediating the efforts to improve learning in schools. The quality of learning in schools will, therefore, depend substantially on the professional capacity development of teachers. When they engage with each other in such efforts the success is collective, easy and deeply meaningful.

CoP is your platform for learning by sharing...

### Good Teaching practices:

Read and contribute to exemplars of Good Teaching Practices from expert educators and practitioners like you.

[A plunge into the fun-filled classroom of a teacher-facilitator who shares an engaging instantiation of building critical literacy among children on the topic 'the food we eat'.](#)

[A comprehensive and rich story of Migration and its myriad aspects and innovative ways of dealing with this critical and interesting concept in classrooms.](#)

[Can a language classroom be a place for discussion of Social Justice concerns? Read this Teacher's Diary that attempts Social Justice education in an English class.](#)

[A detailed lesson plan and associated resources to help your students make sense of the exciting topic of Numbers and Number system.](#)

[Interactive digital storytelling creates space for creativity and an opportunity for real time interactions with a storyline for a learner. We share a very simple approach to develop interactive digital stories for our primary class students.](#)

### **Edu- tech tools for teachers:**

Read about the latest tools, platforms and applications in the field of education technology to revamp your teaching practices.

[Flipgrid is a social learning platform that engages learners through video-based discussions and makes online learning a fun-filled and interactive experience.](#)

[Jitsi Meet is a free, open-source video conferencing and instant messaging app useful for teachers in conducting online teaching sessions. It comes with many interesting and unlimited features for synchronous interactions.](#)

[Nearpod is an online teaching-learning platform for conducting and managing online classrooms and making them engaging and interactive.](#)

[Stellarium is free, open source software that allows students and teachers to use their Desktop computer or Laptop as a virtual Planetarium and visualise celestial objects like never before.](#)

[FreeMind is a surprisingly powerful open-source mind-mapping program that helps teachers and students to create mind maps in any area of study.](#)

### **Discussion board**

*In my ICT class, I asked students to take the cursor up. I saw some students lift the mouse upward. It was amazing for me to realise how this simple instruction requires a complex transformation of understanding in action. The question of forward movement of the mouse resulting in upward movement of the cursor came to me as an interesting problem of geometric*

*transformation. I am still wondering what type of transformation will it be called? Any suggestions?*

### Comments

Send your views on this thread [here](#).

### In Focus:

**Interactive Lecture:** The most crucial question that every teacher wants to know is - How to make my class interactive? Research shows that learning happens only superficially when learners are asked to just listen, watch, read or copy a new piece of information. However, when they are explicitly asked to relate new information to what they already know, deep learning occurs, which learners will be able to harness in new situations.

Here is an excellent example from a booklet that has been specifically written to address issues arising upon the COVID-19 pandemic. Published on a popular e-newsletter Tomorrow's Professor, sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning at Stanford University.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MN4DJJJVQlby9vSK2R5Ole\\_LQq6kYKWj/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MN4DJJJVQlby9vSK2R5Ole_LQq6kYKWj/view?usp=sharing)

### 21st Century pedagogy - terms simplified –

(e.g. Blended learning, Flipped Class, Growth Mindset, Constructivism...)

“Blended learning”, often said to be the ‘new normal’ of learning now, simply put, means blending two methods of teaching. It could be a blend of online-offline ways, digital and conventional modes and so on. It means a range of possibilities presented by combining Internet and digital media with established classroom forms that require the physical co-presence of teacher and students. The terms "blended learning", "hybrid learning", "technology-mediated instruction", "web-enhanced instruction", and "mixed-mode instruction" are often used interchangeably. Read the interesting shifts in the meaning of the term [here](#).