

When you walk into a New Tech™ PBL classroom, you should be able to see the following any time...

- Tables (have replaced desks or if not possible, desks arranged in groups as opposed to rows)
- Students who can tell you
 - what project that they are working on
 - who is in their group
 - what their own individual responsibility is within the group
 - how they will be assessed on the project
 - what the final product of the project should be
 - the learning outcomes that they must address
- Evidence of use of technology to aid in instruction
- The great majority of students acting on-task
- Teachers modeling appropriate behavior and a focus on student work.
- Teachers who can tell you
 - What project the students are working on, and what the next project is
 - Their strategy for grouping students for the current project
 - The basic ideas/standards that the project is addressing
 - How they are using the course calendar and/or a project briefcase to support student learning
 - What learning outcomes are being addressed within the project
- Interaction between the teacher and students that indicates respect and high expectations.

You should be able to see these at least once a week when you observe a NT classroom:

- Students working together in groups, discussing a scaffolding assignment or the overall project
- Students checking their grades online
- The teacher meeting with a group, or with representatives from all the groups
- The students assessing each other using the collaboration database
- The teacher providing direct instruction and/or guided practice with skills needed for completion of the project
- In a science classroom, students gathering data via direct measurements/and or research
- Students using the course calendar and/or the briefcase to find necessary information for the class
- Students and/or teacher revisiting the Know/Need to Know list to guide progress on the project
- The teacher engaging in formative assessment

You should be able to see these indicators at least once per project when you observe an NT classroom:

- Students being introduced to the entry document/event, and developing the know/need to know list
- Students developing contracts in groups
- Students practicing presentations or preparing for the final product
- Students presenting, or engaging in some sort of culminating activity for the project
- Students taking a test, or some other individual summative assessment
- Students and teacher debriefing the project, exploring what worked/didn't work, etc.