Becoming an optimal PBL tutor:
What you know, What you do, Who you are
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Handout — Part 2

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What is your work as a tutor most like?

1. Being a good presenter?
2. Being a good discussion leader/facilitator?
3. Being a good role model?
4. Being a good coach?
5. Something else?
6. Being a good clinician?

7. All of the above!

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Two kinds of educational decisions

1. "Macro" decisions
   - What curriculum committees do
2. "Micro" decisions
   - What you do from moment to moment while teaching

"Process" and "Content"

1. We've been focusing mainly on "Process" (on HOW to be a tutor).
2. Let's shift to thinking about "Content" (about WHAT to teach).
3. ...and about making Process into Content.
I offer you two key messages:

1. Important learning is never done!
2. Worthy learning comes from questions, not from answers!

The implications of these 2 assertions are enormous!

It is easier for a tutor to command than to teach.

Eight questions to consider reflecting on about your teaching: (Being your own coach)

1. Am I being sufficiently diagnostic?
2. Am I promoting an authentic sense of ownership?
3. Am I asking & inviting enough questions?
4. Am I routinely encouraging reflection (before, on & in action)?
5. Am I regularly inviting self-assessments?
6. Am I regularly providing, timely, constructive feedback?
7. Am I trying to adapt to each learner’s uniqueness?
8. Am I seeking to earn every learner’s trust? (Am I their advocate?)

Two more key messages: (if you can stand it…)

1. Control isn’t Teaching!
2. Compliance isn’t Learning!

What we think of as the moment of discovery…is really the discovery of the right question.

John Locke

Two lessons:
1. Think outside the box
2. Learning level is variable ("Process" -> "Content")

Rules:
1. Place 9 dots on paper, spaced evenly, as above.
2. Draw 4 connected straight lines that cover ALL 9 dots.
3. Pass over each dot only once.
4. No backing up.
5. Don’t lift your pen/pencil off the paper after you begin. Please begin…

An instructive puzzle

An ancient Chinese proverb

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.
Help him learn how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Jonas Salk

(1916-1965)
Developed the first polio vaccine (1955)