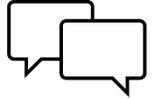


How can we use communication to create lifelong learning pathways?

Technological and socio-economic changes have increased the need for lifelong learning worldwide. At the same time, the Internet has allowed the proliferation of open educational resources (such as Khan Academy courses, TED talks, Wiki Educator) that foster lifelong learning initiatives. Those resources alone, however, do not create rich educational experiences. Communication plays a central role in sustaining vibrant learning communities and has been pivotal in supporting peer-based models in which people rely on loosely hierarchical structures to collaborate. Taken together, these factors have been transforming the ways people learn together and redefining the educational landscape for the 21st century.



Round One: Connecting (~5 minutes)



Share your name with the group AND an essential characteristic of vibrant learning communities (e.g., a classroom, a learning circle, a book club, etc.).

Round Two: What We Say Matters (~10 minutes)

Choose ONE of the questions below to answer in 1-2 minutes.



How can communication be used to sustain vibrant learning communities?

What role can a network of peers play in supporting lifelong learning?

What are the opportunities and limitations that self-guided learning (without the guidance of an expert) can bring to individuals?

Round Three: How We Express Ourselves Matters (~15 minutes)

Choose ONE of the questions below to answer in 1-2 minutes.

When everyone has spoken once, respond to others or address another question of your choice.



What challenges and opportunities did online learning bring to us during the COVID-19 pandemic?

What are the main barriers for people to engage with lifelong learning opportunities outside the structure of formal education?

How can we increase access to lifelong learning opportunities to under-resourced individuals?

Round Four: Reflections (~10 minutes)

Choose ONE of the questions below to answer in 2 minutes.



What are the social changes that expanded access to learning can bring?

lifelong

How can we ensure quality when experts are not involved in the learning process?

What new learning or understanding are you taking away from today's conversation?