What is Open Education?

Stephen Downes, Medellin, Colombia, April 26, 2018

Open education is a philosophy about the way people should produce, share, and build on knowledge. Proponents of **open education** believe everyone in the world should have access to high-quality **educational** experiences and resources, and they work to eliminate barriers to this goal.

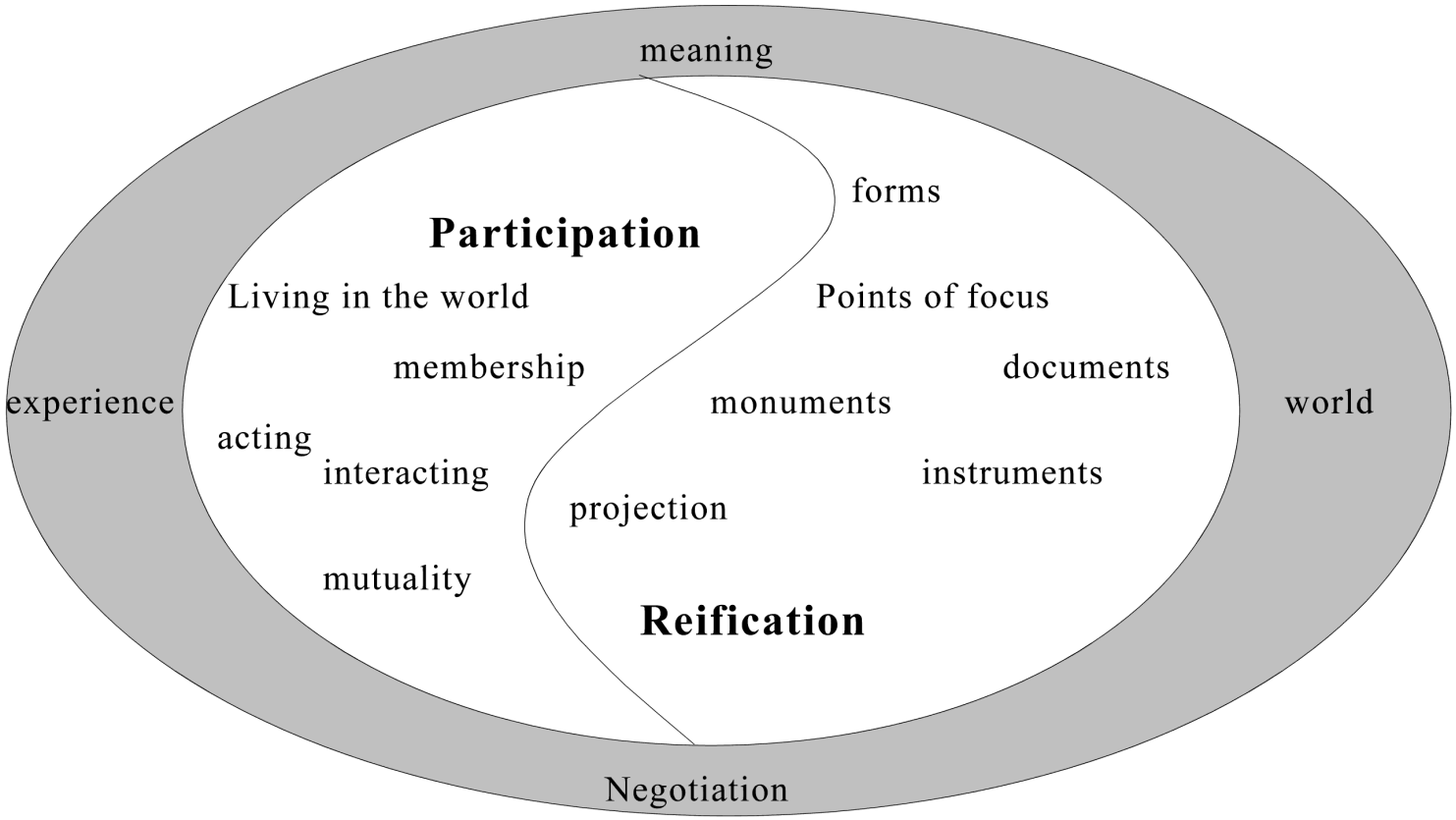
https://opensource.com/resources/what-open-education

What are OERs?

"OERs range from textbooks to curricula, syllabi, lecture notes, assignments, tests, projects, audio, video and animation."

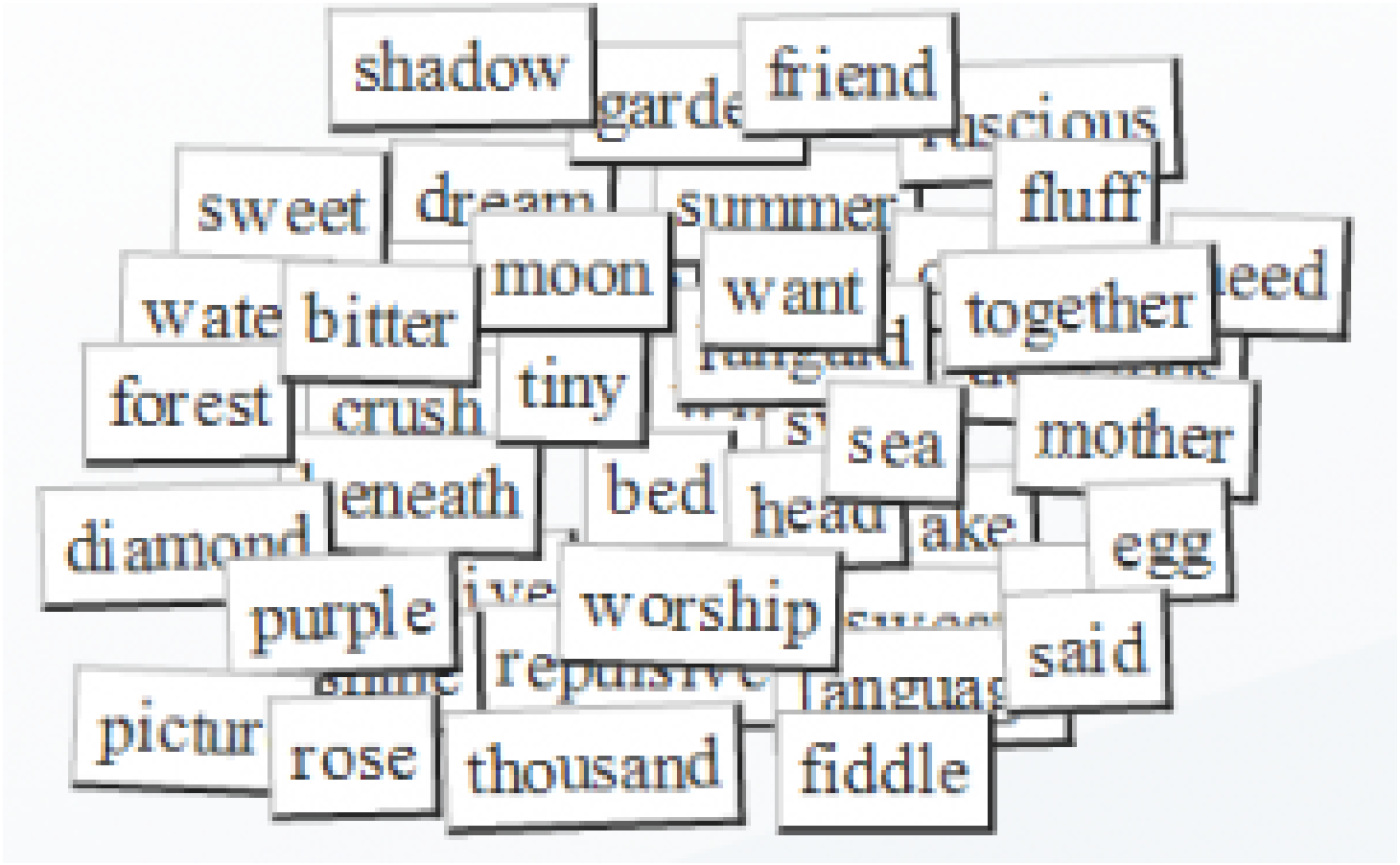
http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/access-to-knowledge/open-educational-resources/what-are-open-educational-resources-oers/

Knowledge is reified by, and is the product of, not only an individual, but of the wider community.



http://www.informationr.net/ir/8-1/paper142.html

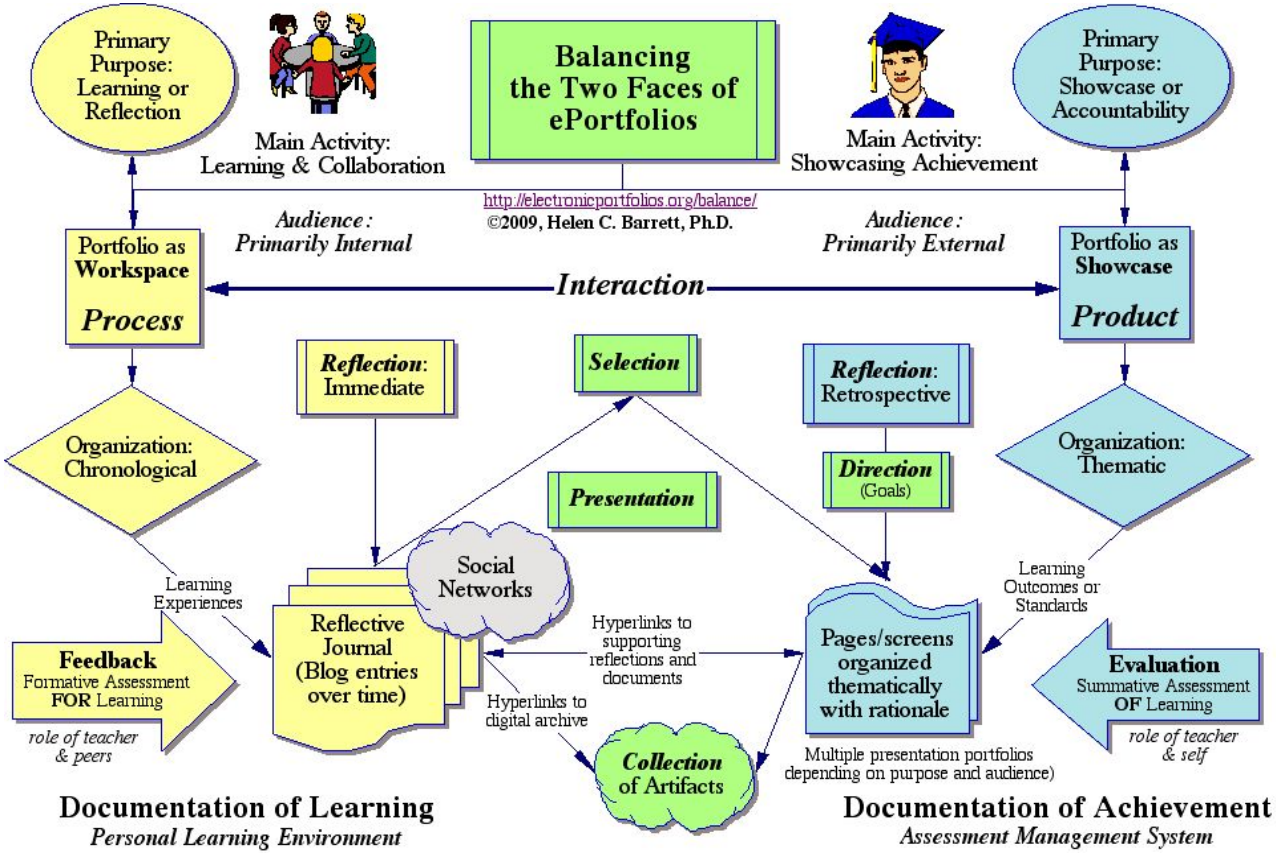
Think of OERs as words in a conversation



It forces us to think about how they can be used.

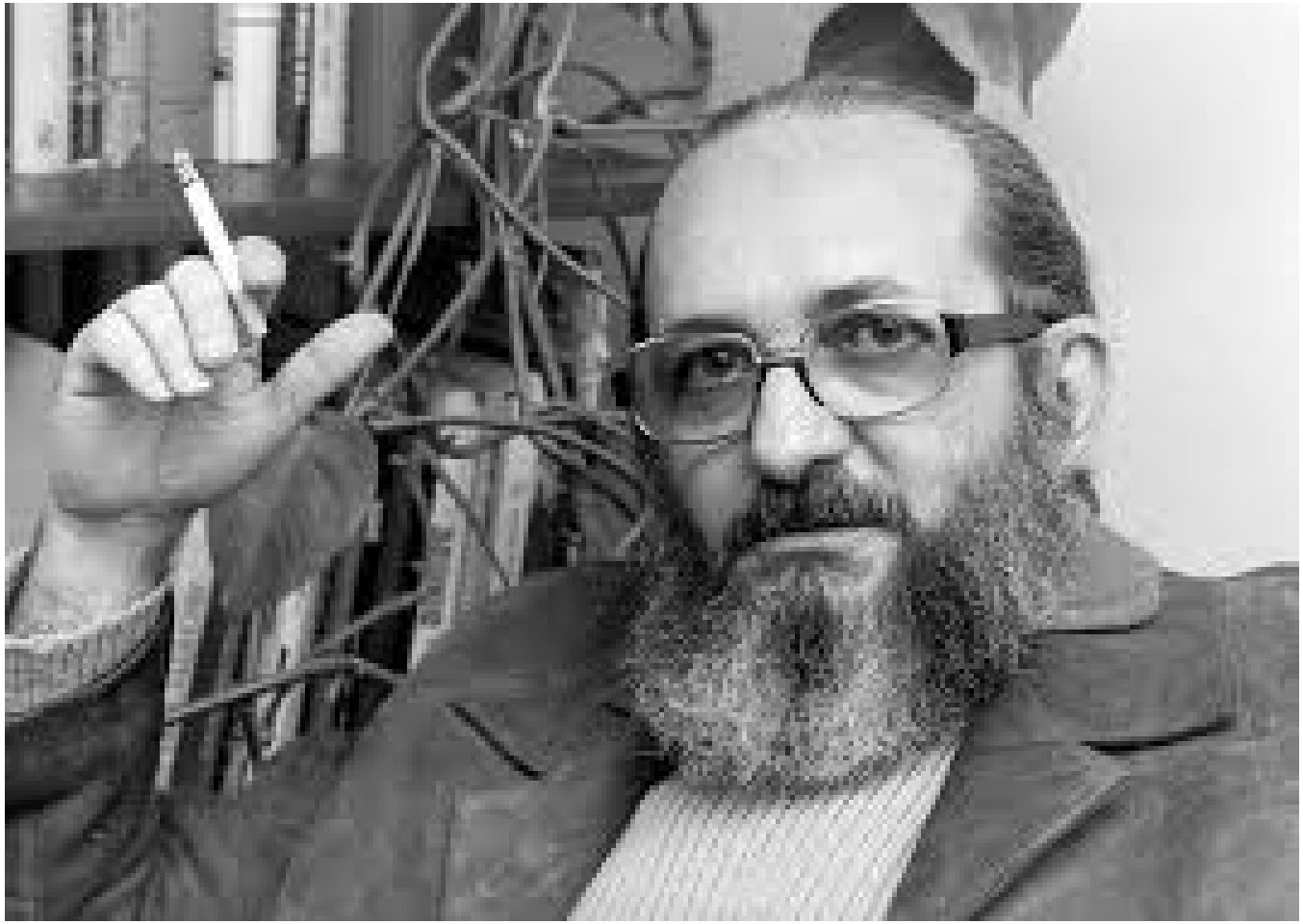
http://oerworkshop.pbworks.com/w/page/33932297/OER%20Workshop

Consider how words are used in education.



http://electronicportfolios.org/balance/index.html

Understanding Knowledge



http://www2.webster.edu/~corbetre/philosophy/education/freire/freire-2.html

We are constrained in so many ways

- Limited to objectives and educational purpose
- The words have to contain educational *content*
- They must perform (say) one of Gagne's tasks
- That pedagogy is limited to one of knowledge *transfer*
- Students are rendered essentially mute

http://citt.ufl.edu/tools/gagnes-9-events-of-instruction/

Knowing a Pile of Facts?

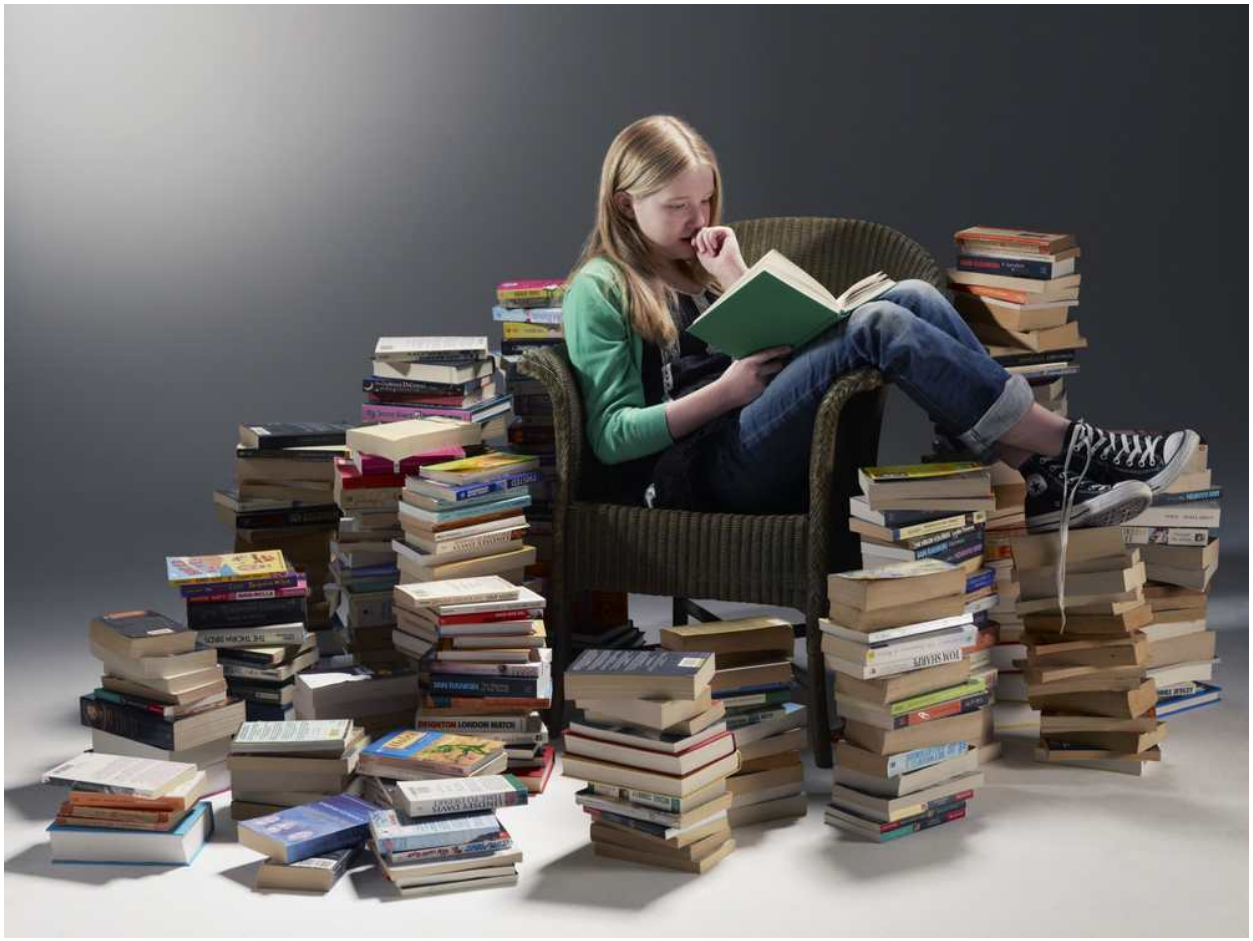
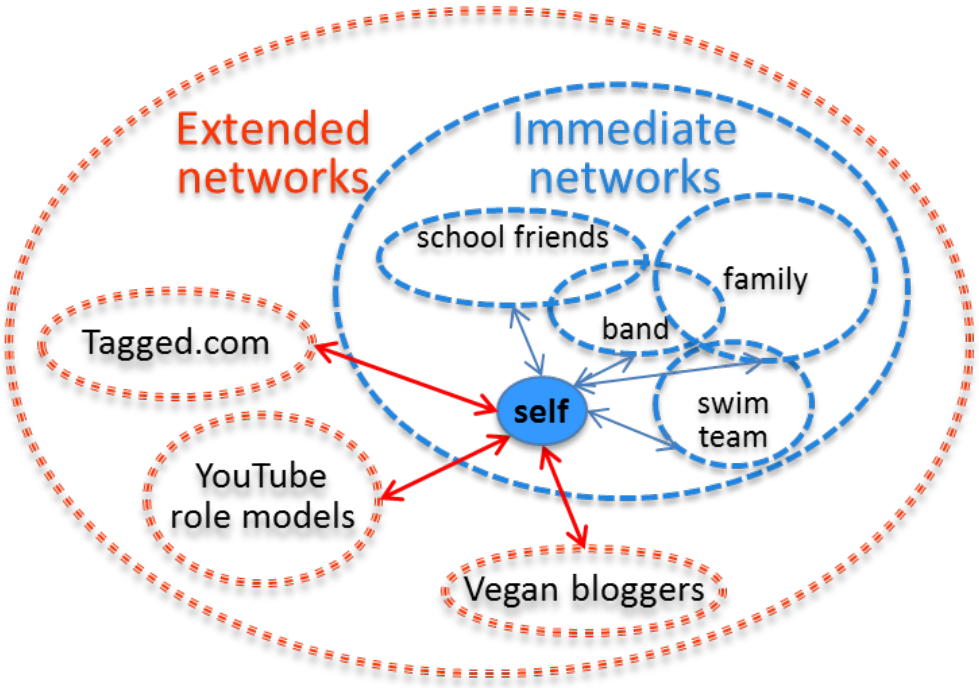


Image: http://www.rightattitudes.com/

Learning in Context

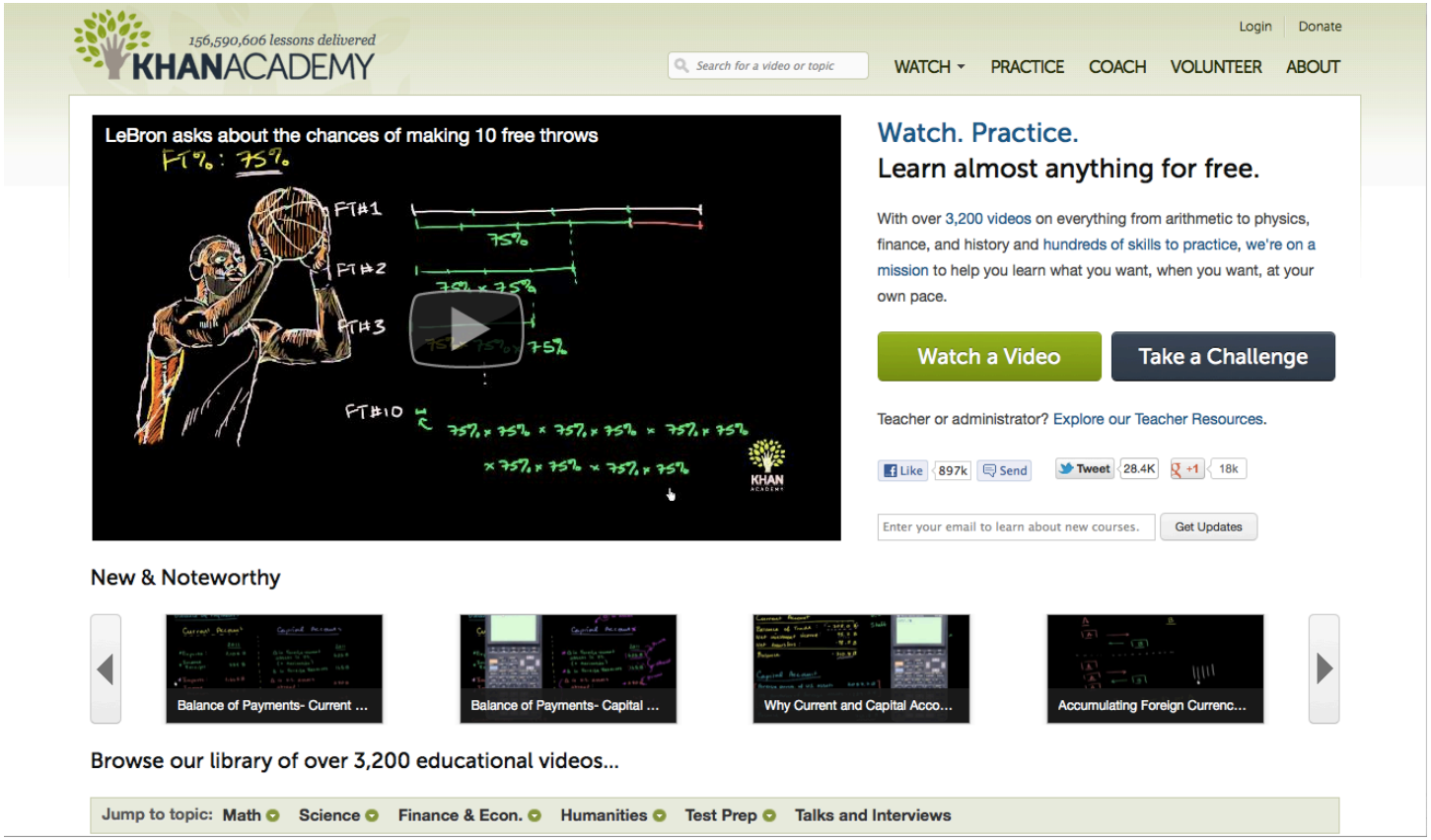


Informal learning opportunities via extended networks

Task-Focused

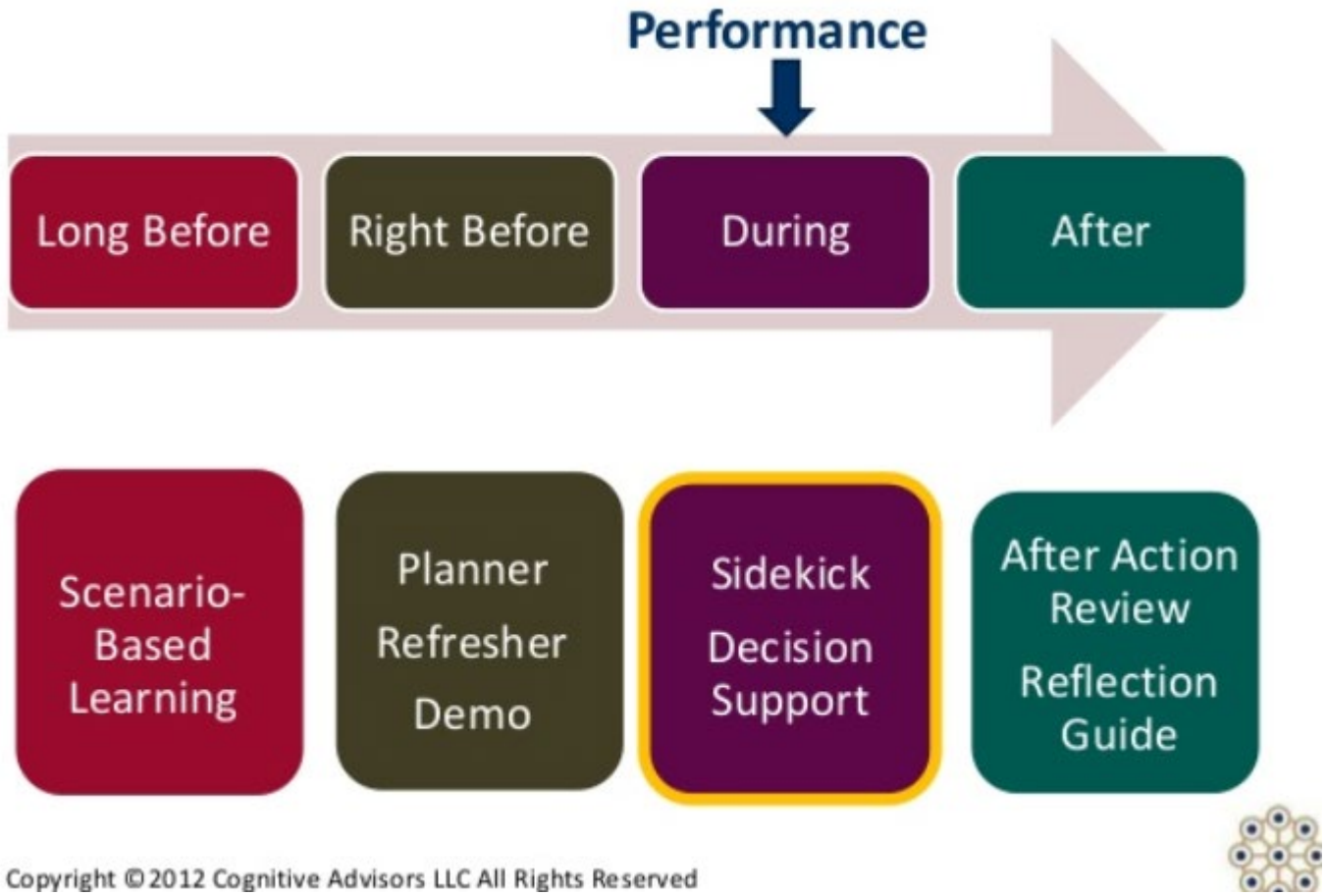
Network-based

How OERs (Really) Begin



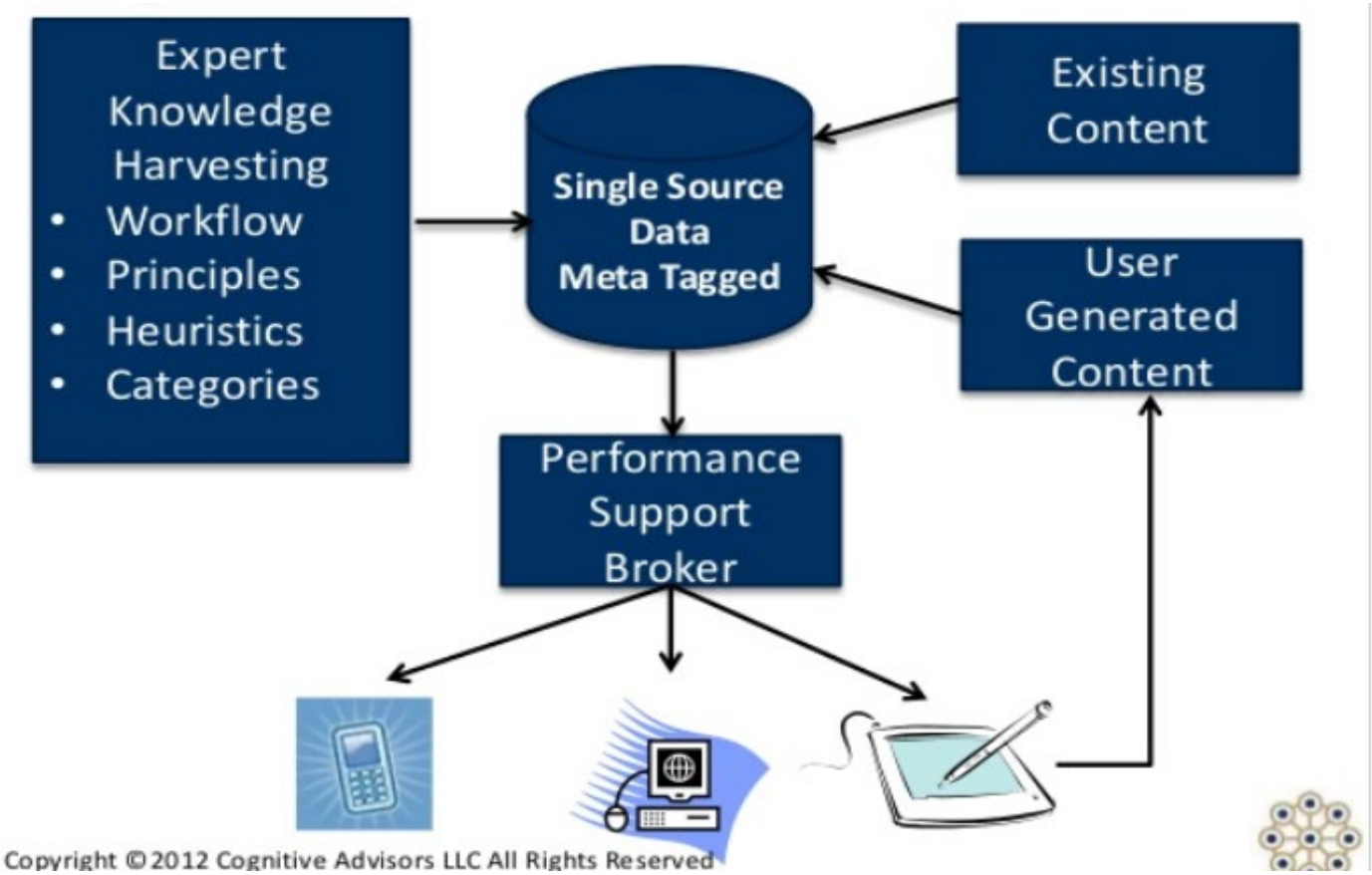
http://www.khanacademy.org/

Performance Support



http://www.cognitiveadvisors.com/resources/mobile-performance-support-design-principles

User-Generated OERs



Working Out Loud

http://johnstepper.com/2014/01/04/the-5-elements-of-working-out-loud/

Informal OER Ecosystem

stackoverflow

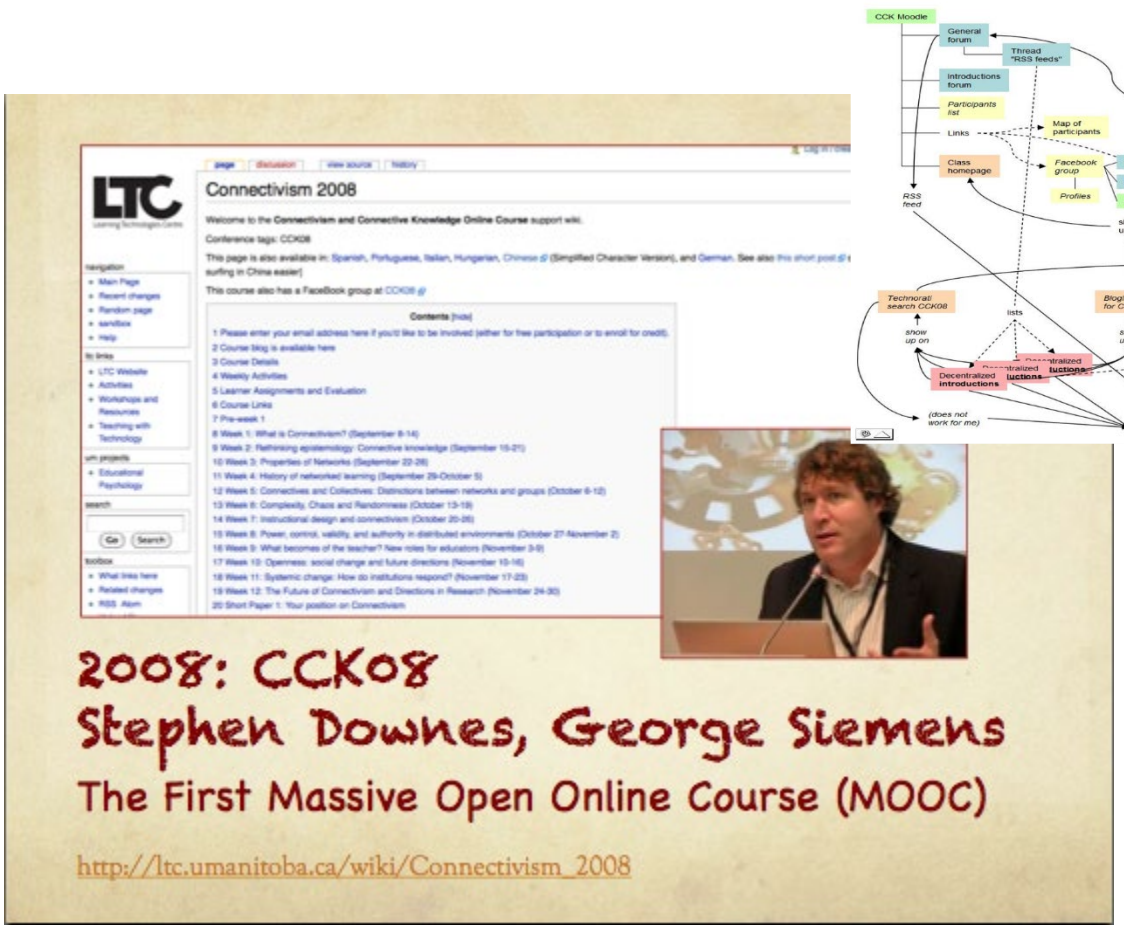
WebMD

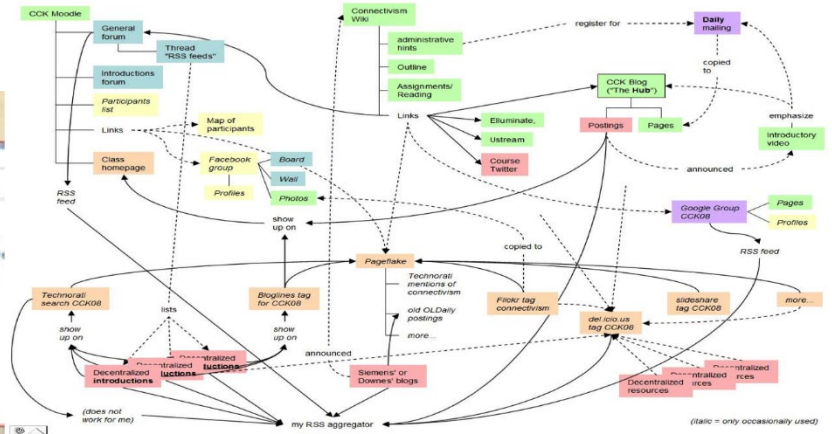
DEVIANT ART

ASK THE BUILDER

Creating Live OERs

MOOC – CCK08



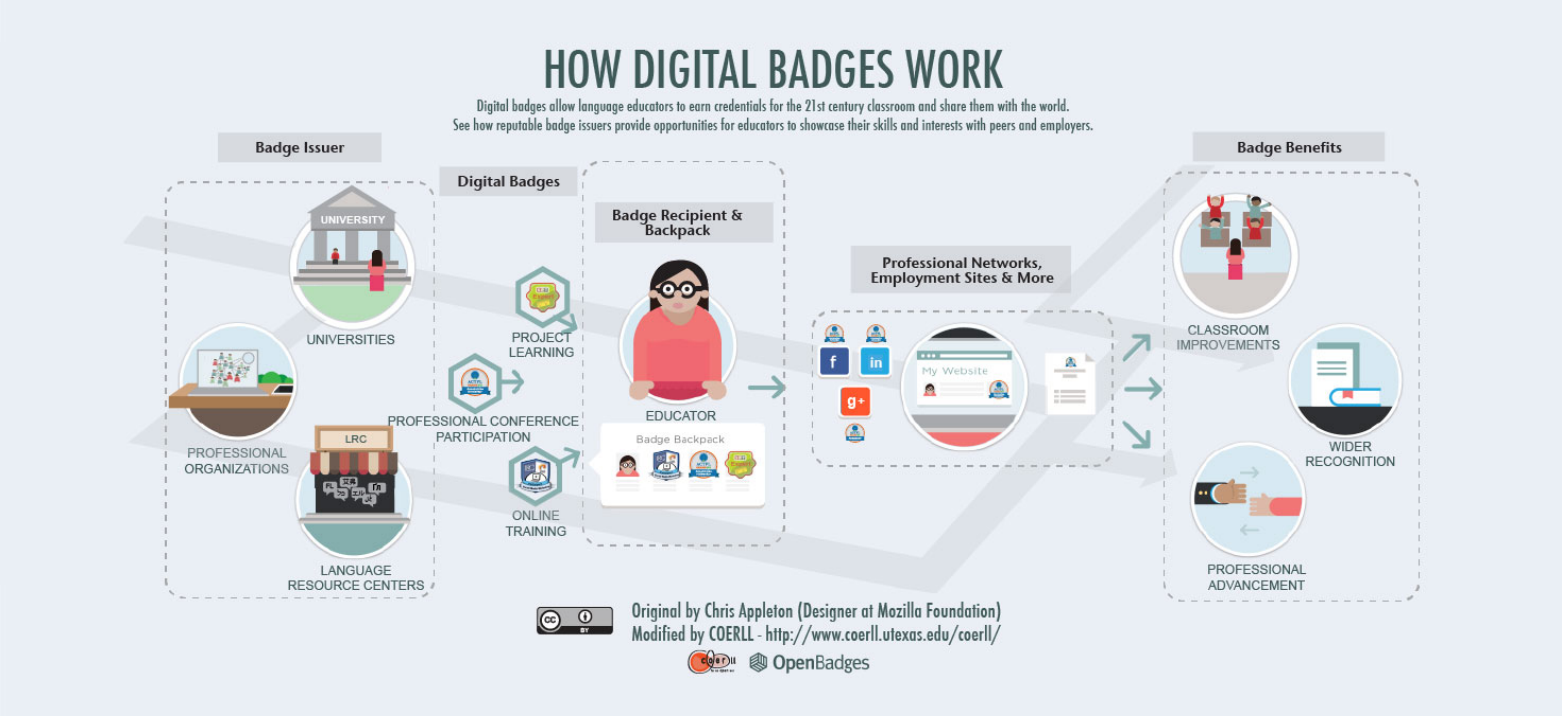


https://sites.google.com/site/themoocguide/3-cck08---the-distributed-course

OIF – MOOC-REL

http://rel2014.mooc.ca/

PCO Badges for Learning

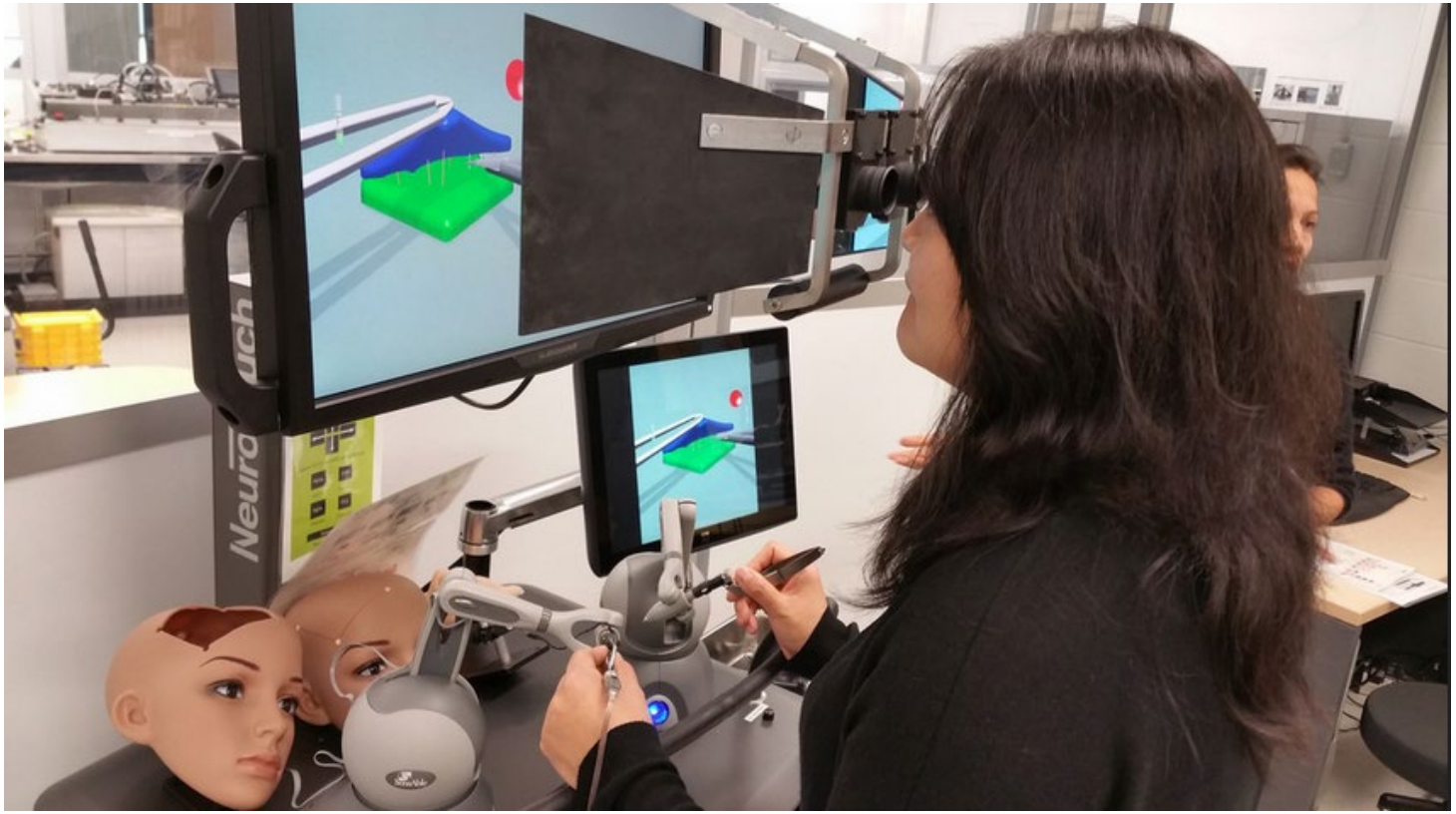


http://www.downes.ca/post/63738

ALECSO – Capacity Building

http://www.downes.ca/presentation/337

Med Sims



https://www.flickr.com/photos/stephen_downes/15710336207/

http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/rd/medical/

Stephen Downes

http://www.downes.ca