NEW GREEN FOR NABLUS: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY WEBQUEST "BY DESIGN"   JULY 2011

WEBQUESTS FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

I. What exactly is a WebQuest? Why Bother?

Affordances of the Web for Teaching & Learning (c.f. "Affordances" brainstorm by Susan Kim):

Example: Energy Sources Evaluation WebQuest for Grade 6: http://questgarden.com/111/44/0/101016104651/index.htm

II. Backward Design Process to create a WebQuest:

Reham, Judith & Lauren's WebQuest, New Green for Nablus: Scenario (handout)

Learning Goals:

Students shall gain interdisciplinary understandings, including:

- **local and global meanings of recycling/sustainability**
- **that students can play a role in recycling/sustainability efforts**
- **nature of materials that can be recycled—e.g., paper, glass, plastic**
- **processes and approximate costs of recycling such materials**
- **how Palestinian heritage/culture can be incorporated in new products**
- **principles of design for creating products from recycled materials**
- **concepts for marketing recycled wares to local/global consumers**

Disciplinary knowledge included in New Green for Nablus WebQuest:

- **science** (properties of materials and processes of recycling)
- **mathematics/economics** (estimating, budgeting products; researching markets)
- **social studies/history** (Palestinian heritage/designs for integrating in recycled wares)
- **art/design** (design of new products; design of marketing & promotion materials)
- **language arts/multimedia production** (marketing campaigns for new products; presentation of prototypes at end of WebQuest)

Hands-on WebQuest-work-in-Progress @ PTUK

Reham, Judith and Lauren's collaborative work-in-progress **(**Handout: **F. O. C. U. S.)**

- **Refine WebQuest task**: *Will teams present products to a person or panel? Who is/are person/panel?*
- **"Find Great Sites" —***in both Arabic and English***—***to cover all research requirements; how to combine?*
  *NOTE: use **delicious** to collaborate on archive of great sites;*
  NOTE: find sites with samples of inspiring recycled products (e.g., Etsy: http://www.etsy.com*)*

- **Determine student team structure and jobs/roles within teams** (c.f. F.**O**.C.U.S.)
  NOTE: as size of team may vary, emphasize jobs rather than specific roles to be assumed; jobs include:

  - **research** into process of recycling generally, and specific science of various materials
  - **design** of new product made from recycled materials (glass, plastic, paper or other–e.g., rubber tires)
  - **branding** of materials to carry a distinctive Palestinian identity
  - **budgeting** project to make product development economically attractive for mayor's investment
  - **marketing** campaign ideas to promote product—first, within Palestine, later to global consumers
  - **presentation** of all points to mayor/panel of judges to make compelling argument for investment

  NOTE: if team is small, all members will do more than one job; if team is large (5–6), each student could undertake one job, and the presentation could be done collaboratively by all team members. The quality of the presentation is a criterion for assessment of the project and award of funding by the mayor (see introduction).