Making Learning Visible Through Next Gen PET: From Elementary School Students to Undergraduates

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The ‘Next Generation Physics and Everyday Thinking’ curriculum [1] has been adapted from previous curricula (PET, PSET and others) to make the materials more aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards. Like the previous curricula, the conceptual and pedagogical design of Next Gen PET builds on students’ prior knowledge and lends itself to making students’ thinking visible to both other students and to the instructor. In addition to developing core physical science ideas, students in the course also have the opportunity to examine elementary children’s thinking and reasoning. In this workshop we will briefly describe the conceptual and pedagogical design of NextGenPET, and show several video clips from both NextGenPET and elementary classrooms as a context for discussing students’ thinking and reasoning.

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