

## Thematic Working Groups

Of particular interest to teachers are the following Working Groups:

Thematic Working Group 3 is focussed on **Creativity**. Creativity and technology are complex areas which involve pedagogy, thinking skills, risk taking, ideation, problem solving, and more. TWG3 aims to explore the intersection of these constructs and provide insight into how we can develop creative thinking in teaching and learning. Risk taking and productive failure are fundamental components of creativity (Glover, 1977). A small but growing base of research literature suggests that digital technologies and practices can both support and inhibit (for both teachers and learners) these aspects of creative practices (Manalo & Kapur, 2018).

Thematic Working Group 5 is looking at a topic of real significance in schools. **Cyber wellness** (CW) involves an understanding of online behaviour and keen awareness of how to protect oneself in cyberspace. The focus of CW is about helping students to become responsible digital learners. Major challenges include: considering what information can be trusted; what information should be posted online and what not? How do we make sure that children and youngsters feel safe in the digital world and that they can take such responsibility for their own use of technologies? How can public awareness of online children's protection and cyber wellness (digital citizenship notion) be improved? The group is exploring the tension between creating openness and acceptance in our students, and judicious caution when using on-line materials.

Thematic Working Group 7. **Online interaction** with people and with digital resources for learning purposes is becoming common practice for educators and students. In connected (or networked) learning, the emphasis is put on connections, be they connections between students from geographically distant classrooms and schools, regions, provinces, and countries as well as students engaged in MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). Connected learning environments are generally characterized by a sense of shared purpose, a focus on production, and openly networked infrastructures. Models that apply include: learning communities, communities of practice (like MirandaNet), and teacher networks (like TPEA), which provide ways of bridging formal and informal learning environments.

Have a look at the web site for more details:

<https://edusummit2019.fse.ulaval.ca/pages/thematic-working-groups>

Further outcomes will be posted here.