



LISTENING GUIDE: KNOWLEDGE BUILDERS

Episode #1 - Innovation at Work: Exploring the KB Principles

About the Series:

This podcast series explores Knowledge Building pedagogy and the 12 foundational principles that support innovation and knowledge creation in classrooms. We will follow a classroom engaged in Knowledge Building work, and hear from the teacher how he inspires and supports this ideas-driven classroom. Students' thoughts, experiences and reflections will illustrate the power of a Knowledge Building community.

Episode Description:

In this episode, we are introduced to the classroom teacher, Jason Frenza, his Gr. 8 students and Knowledge Building expert, Marlene Scardamalia. Marlene sets the context for us as to how the KB principles (12 habits of highly creative teams) allow students to engage in the practices of Knowledge Creating organizations and build a skill set that will enable them to be successful in today's world regardless of their age. We will hear how the initial fears of the classroom teacher dissipate as the learning experiences in this classroom are transformed. This exciting journey began with the students exploring the Knowledge Building Principle of Improvable Ideas which, over time, led students to unlock and discover other valuable Knowledge Building Principles. Prior to listening to the podcast, please download the 1-page overview of the KB principles available in the photo/resource gallery.

Listen for:

- What is **Knowledge Building**?
- What are the **KB principles**?
- Why is this type of **learning environment** valued by students?

Your wonderings (while listening, jot down questions, ideas and notes in the space below):

“The KB principles are components of a complex process, and the really good news is that any single one that you unlock can help unlock the others... focus on whichever one appeals to you.” - **Marlene Scardamalia**

Discussion Questions:

- The 12 principles are the foundation of Knowledge Building pedagogy. Which of the 12 principles resonate with you? Which do you already engage in your practice? Which principle do you want to explore further?
- How has working as a community transformed the learning experience for these students?
- What supports do students and teachers need to embark on a Knowledge Building journey?
- After listening to this podcast, what ideas and practices do you want to explore more?