

QUEST 2016

Heidi Siwak The power of integrative thinking

KIRA: Well, integrative thinking is kind of combining the pros of two different problems, or two different models. You're taking out the problems and you're just taking the things that people want, and you're making it into something entirely new that the better -- and something that a lot of people would benefit from.

We've done a lot of, like, projects with it. But also, in just real life, like, like Miss Siwak said, we needed to choose, like, how we're going to set up our desks for a kind of thing. We need to choose, okay, I like seeing each other, but I also like having our own space. We needed to kind of put it together to make a solution that works for everybody.

LEAH: Using integrative thinking to help me work on my new projects in school, it helps you, like, look deeper into what the options are a little bit more, so, like, you see more of the good and bad in each part.

KIRA: It kind of helps you make the best of a situation. If you're kind of stuck in between two things, you can, in fact, like, see, well, this is going to benefit, this is going to benefit, but this could be a problem. Or, it's not needed. And you can just automatically, without even, like, putting everything together, but within minutes just come to a conclusion that's successful. Without even realizing it, though, just since I've been practicing it so much in Miss Siwak's class last year, it's just something that I do. So it just comes to my mind, and that's what influences me when I make decisions.