



STUDENT VOICE INNOVATE MOBILIZE EMPOWER CONNECT

MONTANA CAREER ASSOCIATION
LEAD
MONTANA CONFERENCE
October 31, 2017
Radisson Hotel Helena, MT

CHAPTER PROJECT

Innovate

Objective

Jobs for Montana's Graduates (JMG) and employers want employees to be problem solvers that utilize critical thinking skills to improve the way things are done. This year's LEAD theme is Innovate and we want to give you the opportunity to develop a prototype that can solve your classroom's problems.

Each JMG Chapter will look around their classroom and find one object the class can redesign. The object should be something that has been identified as having problems or can be redesigned to work in a better way for its users.

DIRECTIONS

- Watch the following video to see an example of a Design Thinking project.
IDEO Shopping Cart Project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=taJOV-YCiel>
- Use the following steps to work through the project as a class.
- **Research/Empathy:** Interview users about their experiences using the object, how does that object work for them, what are their personal experiences?
- **Define the Problem:** What are the issues with the current way the object works?
- **Brainstorm and Prototype:** In five minutes, think of as many solutions for your problem as possible. Choose one or more to prototype. Build your prototype(s).
- **Feedback/Test:** Have users test the prototype, does the prototype solve the problem(s) identified?
- **Reiterate:** Incorporate feedback into your prototype.
- **Final Build:** Using the feedback and information gathered in testing, construct your prototype to bring to the LEAD conference.

The project will need to be transported to Helena for the conference, so please choose your object accordingly. The projects will be judged by Table Captains and a prize will be awarded to the winning design.

NOTE: This exercise is DIFFERENT from the Logo Competition. The Logos are due September 22, 2017 as part of your LEAD Montana registration, along with any Essay Competition submissions from your students.

The Innovate Project is due at the LEAD Montana Conference on October 31, 2017.