

## Exploration 3: Trend

### Topic: Infographics

#### Unit Outline Create an Infographic

##### Overview:

I teach a course called K-8 Science and Math Technology. I have a lot of freedom in this course in terms of what content I teach. One of the projects that I would like to implement is having my students learn about infographics as a tool they could use in their future classrooms to assess student understanding. I'm interested in infographics because they've become really popular over the past few years and I think they would be great for getting students to use higher order thinking skills.

##### Materials:

- Piktochart - web-based tool for creating infographics

##### Day 1 - What are infographics?

- Provide background on what infographics are.
  - "A visual representation of information." - Kathy Schrock
- Show this infographic and explain the various parts:  
<https://www.customermagnetism.com/infographics/what-is-an-infographic/>
- Show this video to help students visualize the process of creating an infographic:  
<https://vimeo.com/4357396>

##### Activity:

- Do a Gallery Walk with students. Place several infographics relating to STEM and PBL around the classroom. In groups students will walk around and take notes on the story that each infographic is trying to convey. After the students have visited each station, we'll have a whole-class discussion on what they observed.
- For this activity, I'll select infographics from these sites:
  - <http://lemon.ly/>
  - <http://visual.ly/>
- The goal for this activity will be to get students to recognize the stories that are told with the infographics. I select infographics that relate to STEM and PBL to reinforce the content for the course as well.

## **Day 2 - How do you create an infographic?**

- Students will watch this video prior to class: <https://vimeo.com/76228166>
- We'll talk about how to go about creating an infographic.
- I'll provide students with suggestions for topics they might want to research.
- We'll practice using Piktochart so students are comfortable with the technology.

### *Optional:*

I'm friends with the founder of Lemon.ly (<http://lemonly.com/>) a company that creates infographics. I might have John Meyer speak to my class about the process they go through to create infographics.

### **Assignment:**

Students will select a topic and create an infographic using Piktochart. The infographic will have to relate to a STEM topic. They will need to research a topic they are interested in, collect data, and create an infographic that visually tells a story.