

J. Sherwood-Hill  
MEDT 7464  
Comic Life Project  
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**NETS Standard 2: Design and Develop Digital-Age Learning Experiences and**

**Assessments:** Teachers design, develop, and evaluate authentic learning experiences and assessment incorporating contemporary tools and resources to maximize content learning in context and to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes identified in the NETS•S.

Teachers:

A: Design or adapt relevant learning experiences that incorporate digital tools and resource to promote student learning and creativity.

**NETS Standard 5: Engage in Professional Growth and Leadership:** Teachers continuously improve their professional practice, model lifelong learning, and exhibit leadership in their school and professional community by promoting and demonstrating the effective use of digital tools and resources. Teachers:

B: Exhibit leadership by demonstrating a vision of technology infusion, participating in shared decision making and community building, and developing the leadership and technology skills of others.

The purpose of using the Comic Life program in my literacy class is to demonstrate how students can create a comic strip that reflects key scenes from a book they have read. In other words, students can use this as an updated version of a book report that also represents an authentic assessment that targets students' comprehension as well as creative abilities. The target audience is upper elementary through middle grade students because this program is user friendly and fun. The theme of my project is to teach students tolerance while they learn about the Holocaust. They will read "Milkweed" as a class novel and learn elements of historical fiction as they make connections. It is an effective way for teachers to pull in social studies and literary concepts.

As a result of sharing this program with my colleagues, they are very interested in learning about new technologies. Unfortunately, our district is undergoing restructuring and we do not have the option of ordering new technologies at this time. I am hoping that we can implement this program in the near future because it is a fresh way to encourage students to read and collaborate and it is user friendly. I think that students would be inspired to connect to stories if given the opportunity to present an updated version of a book report in an innovative manner.