



Meet. Share. Spark Innovation.

Dear Colleagues,

Let your faculty meetings be a time when information and conversation spark innovation.

The ISACS Spark is an initiative to provide our member schools with quick and engaging professional development opportunities to spark conversations in 15 minutes or less. These “sparks” can be used as food for thought or as opportunities to engage in larger conversations among peers. ISACS sends Sparks throughout the school year and we hope you will find them helpful in stimulating conversations around exciting research related to teaching and learning.

Experiential Learning -- Learning by doing, experiencing, making mistakes and repeating!

- **Clip #1: [Ryan Ruff 8th grade science class Scooter Design challenge Newton’s 3rd law of motion](#)** (4 minutes) - This video shows Ryan Ruff’s 8th grade science class’ scooter design challenge where students apply Newton’s 3rd law of motion.
- **Clip #2: [What does the Bat say?](#)** (5 minutes) - The 3rd grade class at Inspire Academy - A School of Inquiry in Muncie, Indiana wrote and performed this song to share what they had learned about the federally endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis Soldalis*) through the first case study of their learning expedition.

(Length of time for all three clips:: approximately 12 minutes)

We hope these ideas ignite thinking and conversations in your school!

Regards,

The ISACS Professional Services Committee & the ISACS Professional Development Team

The ISACS Spark has been developed by the Professional Services Committee (PSC). The PSC is comprised of teacher leaders from around the region who are passionate about professional development. All sites and clips have been reviewed and deemed appropriate for sharing.

PAST SPARKS

September 2015 Spark:

The September Spark focuses on New Ways to Assess Your Own Use of Technology: Do You Know About SAMR? The Substitution Augmentation Modification Redefinition (SAMR) Model offers a Blooms Taxonomy approach for assessing the impact of technology on teaching and learning. It also illustrates the progression that adopters of educational technology often follow as they progress through teaching and learning with technology. This video "The SAMR Model Explained by Students" was created to give teachers a broad overview of Ruben R. Puentedura's SAMR framework for technology integration. You may find this model to be helpful as you consider the impact of technology on learning in your own classroom.

- **Clip #1:** [The SAMR Model Explained By Students](#) (3:54 minutes)
- **Clip #2:** [The SAMR Model and Starbucks](#) (2:40 minutes)

(Length of time for both clips: approximately 7 minutes)

August 2015 Spark:

This month's SPARK is a reminder to take the time to dream about all this year can be for you and your students. Kid President will share his exceptionally enthusiastic pep talk for both teachers and students, a young girl from Kenya will remind you to never give up your dreams and Astronaut Chris Hadfield will give you some out of this world facts along with inspiration to make a difference. We wish you a joyful start to an exceptional new school year.

- **Clip #1** [Kid President's Pep Talk for Teachers](#) (3:55 minutes)
- **Clip #2** [My Dream: A Poem from Kibera School for Girls](#) (1:27 minutes)
- **Clip #3** [Astronaut Chris Hadfield Shares His 2015 'Guide to Optimism](#) (1:47 minutes)

(Length of time for four clips: approximately 7 minutes)

May 2015 Spark:

2015 Annual Conference Keynote Presenters

ISACS will welcome Michael Fosberg and Susan Cain as keynote speakers at the 2015 ISACS Annual Conference "Doing, Designing, Connecting & Thinking" in St. Paul, November 5-6. Each has a very compelling and powerful message designed to stretch your thinking.

Michael Fosberg

- **Clip #1:** [Surprise You're Black!](#) (5:37 minutes)
- **Clip #2:** [Michael Fosberg on the advantages of being mixed race](#) (0:38 seconds)

Susan Cain, the author of QUIET, discusses the need and desire for "quiet" in our technology-filled lives.

- **Clip #1:** [Quiet, Please: Unleashing 'The Power of Introverts](#) (7:47 minutes - audio only)
- **Clip #2:** [Susan Cain's TedTalk: The Power of Introverts](#) (19 minutes)

(Length of time for four clips: approximately 32.5 minutes)

This email has been sent to heads of school, division heads, assistant/associate heads, deans of faculty, deans of studies, directors of professional development and ISACS teacher representatives.