

Five Content Types

Content Type	Description of Content Type	Primary Example	Intermediate Example	Secondary Example
Theme	A concept	People	Deserts	Freedoms
Topic	A specific focus within a theme	Community	Southwestern United States Desert	Freedom of Speech
Issues	No possible solutions (but great for discussions and debates)	Friendships	Man Vs. Flora and Fauna	First Amendment Rights
Works	Famous cases or arenas related theme, topic, issue, or problem	My Community	Spotted Owl Rescue	Ashcroft Vs. Free Speech Coalition (2002)
Problems	Possible solutions, oftentimes explored and resolved by the students as the final Assessment	Pitch In: Stop School Litter	Pro or Con: Desert Destruction	Student-run, Internet-based School Newspaper Guidelines

It is in the students' best interest to be actively engaged in *powerful, spiraling* curricular experiences throughout their K-12 learning--both horizontally and vertically. Providing students with opportunities to gain insight into *all five content types* is advantageous for life-long learning.

Issues, problems, and works play a role in personal life, careers, and the society as a whole, but are often times not focused on explicitly during the formative learning years.

Based on the work of Dr. Heidi Hayes Jacobs

Jacobs, H.H. & Klien, J.T. (2002). *Interdisciplinary education K-12 and college: a foundation for K-16 dialogue*. New York, NY: College Board Publications.