# Responding to the readings

This proforma is one way of actively engaging with your reading. If you have other ways of getting the most from your reading let your colleagues know in the readings discussion folder where you can also attach your reading responses.

Choose *one* idea from your readings:

* 1. articulate the idea, clearly and simply;
  2. analyse its relationship to your practice as a teacher; and
  3. describe an implication for your future practice as a teacher.

It helps your learning to be creative: draw a concept map (<http://cmap.ihmc.us/> ), draw a picture, insert a video

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| Idea | STEM knowledge has become more important as society has globalised and more technologically dependent. Prioritising STEM in teaching to increase student capability therefore is becoming more and more crucial to prepare students for this in the future (Brookes 2017:16). Specifically, technology and design incorporated into STEM allows students to improve on general capabilities needed in everyday situations (collaboration, teamwork, leadership, social skills, self-management) (Brookes 2017:16). |
| Relationship | In my teaching student-led exploration and collaboration is critical to how I plan to structure learning opportunities. Design and technology present the perfect opportunity for them to demonstrate and improve their own understanding of STEM and other subjects overall. With increasing importance on technology in education, and the increase in technical and scientific professions, providing an engaging experience for students to participate in design challenges based around STEM topics. Where there is no direct right or wrong answer to a task or lesson, it will allow students of different levels to have similar levels of understanding, and create their own understanding, and debate and justify their understanding throughout the project. |
| Implications | An implication for my teaching is providing equal opportunity for all students who are working at different levels to receive the same in-depth learning experience. Trying to provide those opportunities for all students will be crucial, but providing an authentic experience where they feel in control of the direction of their learning is a priority of mine. |

Brookes J (2017) ‘Design challenges: Connecting the classroom to the real world’, *Teaching Science,* 63(4):16-19, doi: https://search.informit.org/doi/10.3316/informit.296815990178588