**Rapping Across the Curriculum: Using Student Created Hip-Hop**

**to Express Content Understanding**

Presented by Jeremy Hartzell

You may have your own opinions about rap and hip-hop, but it’s a fact: kids-these-days are listening and loving it. Use that to your advantage in the classroom. Attending participants will be supplied with the rubrics, assignment-sheets, incentives, and resources necessary to host a rap battle in their classroom. Examples of quality student work will be shared. There will also be a brief demonstration of how teacher-created raps can be used as teaching tools. If implemented in a structured, focused manner, student rap battles can be a fun, manageable, creative way to engender enthusiastic student participation and expression of content-mastery.

I. Introduction

A. They’re already listening; they secretly want to be rappers

B. It’s fun yet secretly educational

C. It incorporates both healthy competition and meaningful self-expression

D. iPad is an easy to use mobile studio

II. Oral Tradition & Storytelling

A. How & why it works

III. Student ownership

A. Student Examples (textual and recorded)

IV. Teacher as the model

A. Chris Emdin TED talk

B. Demonstration

V. Giving the lesson a soundtrack

A. How to publish

i. QR codes (add a plug-in to your web browser)

ii. Youtube

iii. Chirbit; Vocaroo

VI. Rapping across the curriculum

A. Humanities

B. STEM

VII. Available web-based resources:

✯ A. [www.createraps.com](http://www.createraps.com) (free rap beats w/built in recorder – flash based)

B. [www.flocabulary.com](http://www.flocabulary.com) (educational rap curriculum)

C. [www.everyinstrumental.com](http://www.everyinstrumental.com) (instrumentals of popular hip-hop songs)

✯ D. [www.rhymezone.com](http://www.rhymezone.com) (online rhyming dictionary)

E. [www.rappad.co](http://www.rappad.co) (online community for writing and recording rap)

F. [www.vocaroo.com](http://www.vocaroo.com) (online voice recording tool)

G. [www.printyourbrackets.com](http://www.printyourbrackets.com) (print tournament brackets for battles)

H. [www.chirbit.com](http://www.chirbit.com) (online voice recording and audio upload posting)

✯ I. <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/> (audio recorder software download for Mac/OSX)

J. [www.worldhiphopbeats.com](http://www.worldhiphopbeats.com) (free downloadable hip-hop beats)

IX. Available iPad Apps

A. Garage Band (Free – also available on the Apple Desktop)

B. Autorap (Free with in app micropayments)

✯ C. Rap to Beats (Free – best all around app)

D. Beatbox+ (Free – human beatbox soundboard)

E. I-Nigma (Free – QR code reader)

X. Hands-on activity (time permitting)

XI. Questions (time permitting)