



WhatsApp as a collaborating tool for Health Education Practice

Ada MA & Joanne CHUNG

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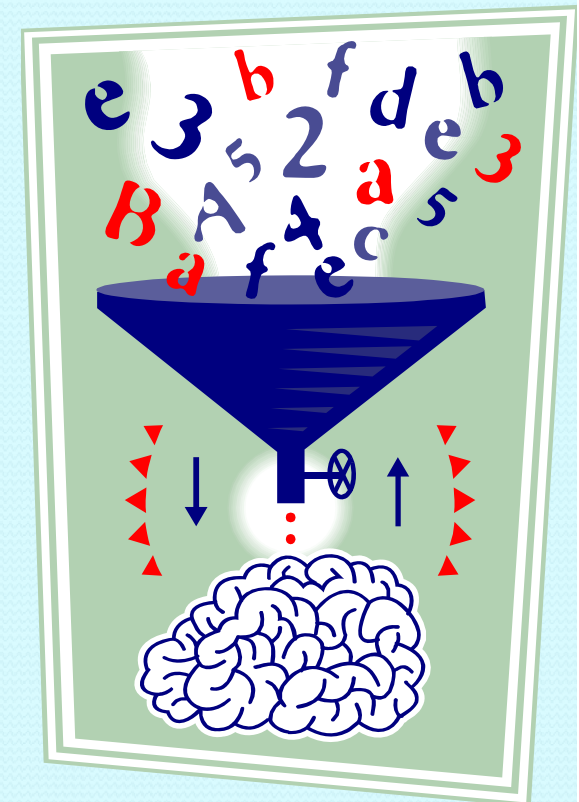
What is ?

- An instant messaging program using Internet connection
- Allowing users chat/discuss/share/collaborate/send files instantly to their contacts via cell phones without any cost
- All files including photographs, voice recordings, video clips, and contents in any other format
- All files can be stored in the device's memory for data storage and retrieval for later usage



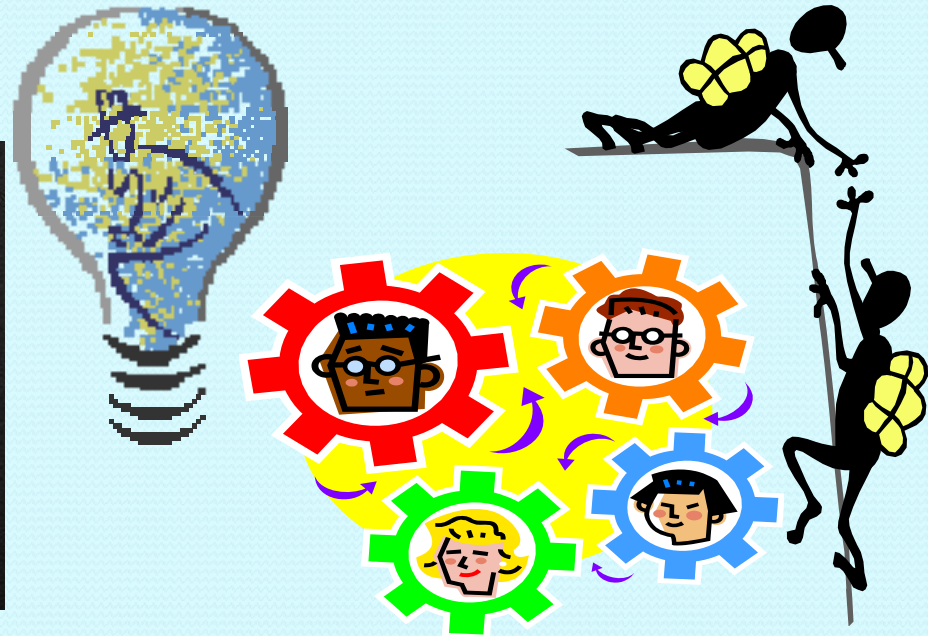
Health Education Practice

- It is a BHE group project with 8-12 students in a group.
- Each group has to conduct one health education programme which consists of a series of related topics including 2-4 sessions either in school or community setting.
- Each group has to submit one health education programme proposal prior to the practice, a progress report during the practice and a final report after the practice.
- Practice performance will be assessed twice by the supervisor(s).



Aims

- To provide ample space for learners to work together to accomplish shared learning goals, and to promote collaborative techniques with technology which will enhance their high-level thinking skills, social interactions, critical reflective capabilities and creativity.



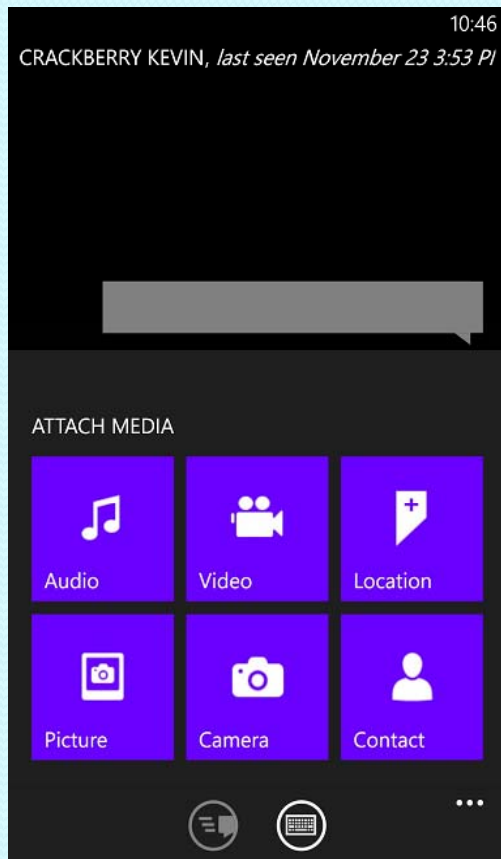
Project Design

- Each group will create a Group Chat with the WhatsApp being free downloaded in their cell phones as a collaborating tool for their health education practice.
- The supervisor (s) will add to the group as their member(s).



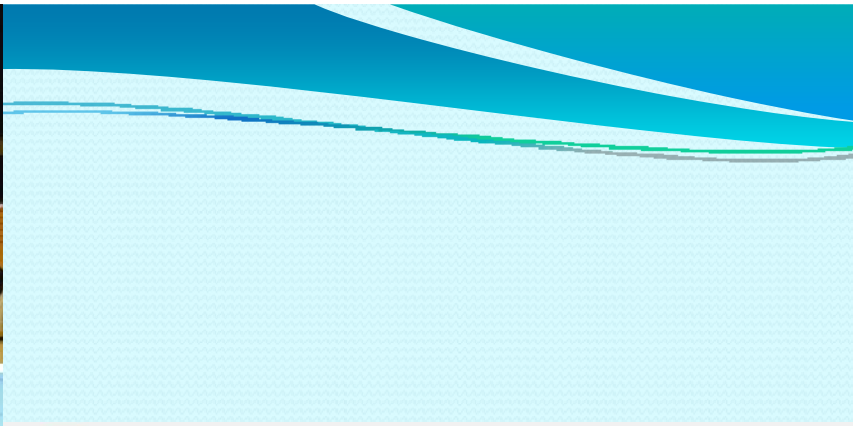
Project Design

At the planning stage, each group will discuss, refine and finalize their health education practice proposal with the timely input from their supervisors.



Project Design

- At the implementation stage, each group will report their progress to their supervisor via Group Chat.
- They will upload the photos and video-taped practice of each session which will then be shared within the Group Chat for ongoing reflection and proposed improved course of action.
- The supervisor(s), can provide instant feedback to their performance with the voice recordings and two-way exchanges of ideas will be made possible via voice messages.



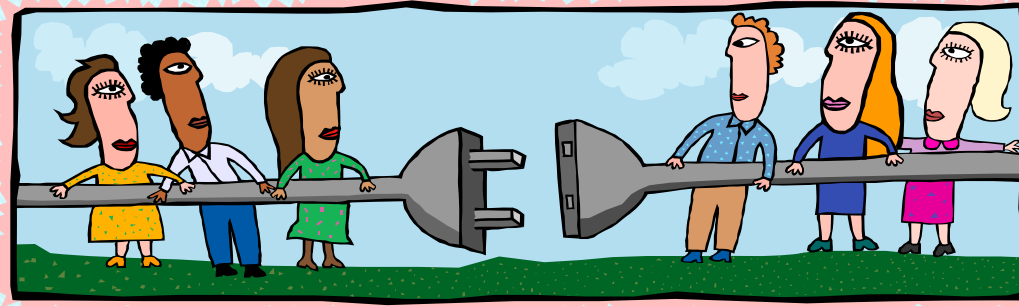
Project Design

The group with the outstanding practice will be invited to share their video-taped practice via YouTube for sharing among BHE students.



Project Design

- Texts of the Group Chat will be saved and stored for data analysis to evaluate if effective collaboration is taken place within the group using WhatsApp utilizing the social constructivist theory.



Focus group meeting will be held to identify the lessons learnt





Summary

By working together in the WhatsApp environment, it is believed that:

- (a) the setting of activity
- (b) the dynamics of the interactions
- (c) the support of members' equal opportunity to participate and contribute
- (d) the configuration of the group
- (e) the variety of communication used for interacting will provide ample space for learners to achieve the aims of the project