

Fundamentals, the Future and the Power of the Force

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Our students face a future of growing global crisis - be it political, financial or environmental. What can we as their teachers do to help them confront these future challenges? Can we, as Paulo Freire suggests, empower them to be subjects in control of their own destiny? What are the fundamental roles of education and technology within human society that may help us do this?

The seminal ideas of Kuhn, Lakatos and Polya have already changed the way we see the history of mathematics, science and technology, and this in turn has led to a new paradigm shift embodied world-wide in many innovative projects in teaching and learning. We will look at some detailed examples from these projects to show how new classroom materials and methods can be used not only to educate but to empower our students.