

## Promising Practice 8: *Using Blogs, SketchUp, and the MakerBot to Process 9/11*



**Connected Learning**  
Linking Families and Schools



### Promising Practice Description:

- ◆ In this interdisciplinary problem-based unit, middle school students tackled the issues and architecture surrounding the September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 terrorist attacks. Using a combination of blogs, SketchUp, and a 3-D Printer, students created a variety of media to express their understanding. The culminating project was a 9/11 Memorial created using the 3-D modeling program SketchUp.
- ◆ Presented by Lou Lahana, [lahana@island188.org](mailto:lahana@island188.org)

### Instructional/ Pedagogical Benefits:

- Students think critically and analyze events surrounding 9/11, utilizing a variety of media.
- Students express their understanding and respond to others by creating Blog posts.
- Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.
- Students solve real-life and mathematical problems involving geometric concepts (angle measure, surface area, and volume).

### Opportunities for Partner Integration:

- MOUSE Squad: Created the Thing-o-Matic in collaboration with MOUSE Squad at MakerBot headquarters
- MOUSE Squad and CUNY Intern offered technical support as needed.
- AUSSIE ITC assisted in alignment to ITSE and CCLS and the creation of rubrics for each element of the project.

**Action Plans/ Next Steps:** *Based on what you learned during the Learning Walk, please highlight actions/ next steps with ITCs, your CUNY intern, MOUSE Representative, or DOE CL PM*

### Resources Utilized:

- ◆ Mr. Lahana's resource site: [www.techbrarian.com](http://www.techbrarian.com) (blog prompts, videos, and tutorials)
- ◆ SketchUp (3D Architectural design software, available online [www.sketchup.com](http://www.sketchup.com) and on the HLC)
- ◆ ReplicatorG (software Interface for 3D Printer)
- ◆ MakerBot 3-D Printer (Built in collaboration with MOUSE)