

### Reviewing and Sharing Your Action Plan

#### Step 6

Save your work as directed.

#### Step 7

Look over your action plan presentation. Make sure it has the following elements:

- Goals that challenge you to make a change in your teaching related to what you have learned
- Tasks that adequately describe specific applications of appropriate instructional strategies
- Practical solutions to anticipated challenges in different areas
- A timeline that includes all the specific tasks you need to accomplish to achieve your goals
- A list containing both the names of a few individuals with whom you can discuss your goals and a collection of varied resources that will help you achieve your goals
- Convincing examples of how applying technology literacy and 21st century teaching and learning skills and approaches will enhance your productivity and professional practices in your classroom

If any of these elements are missing, add them to your presentation now. Share your presentation materials with your trainer. Make any desired changes based on the feedback you receive. Save your work when you are finished.

### Exercise 2: Sharing Your Action Plan

You will now share your presentation with your colleagues and invited guests as part of an action plan showcase. A showcase such as this one allows participants to assume the role of critical friends, celebrating accomplishments and providing constructive feedback. Another benefit of holding a showcase is that, when the individuals creating the presentations realize that a wider audience will be viewing their work, they tend to invest more time and develop better presentations. Also, the audience may become excited and encourage presenters to implement their plans.

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### Step 1

When it is your turn, give your action plan presentation. Remember to speak slowly and clearly so people can understand what you are saying. When you are finished, allow members of the audience to share what they liked and their ideas for improvement.

### Step 2

As other teachers give their action plan presentations, watch and listen quietly, and pay attention to the information they are sharing. Think about what you like and ideas for improvement.

### Step 3

Are you interested in learning more about action plans? Consider the following next steps.

- Have your students use action plans.

Teaching students to develop their own action plans is an important step on the road to self-directed learning. Even very young children can divide a complex project into individual tasks, anticipate problems, and make timelines. Teachers can scaffold students' development of action plans by giving them a large amount of structure at first and then gradually taking away prescribed components until students are creating an entire action plan on their own. The kind of thinking required for planning and executing an action plan is useful in school, on the job, and in everyday life.

- Engage in action research.

Action research can be a logical next step to an action plan. Action research encompasses many of the features of action plans, but it also includes additional components that formalize an investigative process. Both plans and research focus on goals related to teaching and learning, but action research generally includes a review of relevant research, makes a hypothesis about expected changes in student achievement based on an instructional intervention or innovation, and involves the systematic collection and analysis of data.