2018 Learning Impact Award Submission

Personalized Review Assignments

SchoolCity, SAFARI Montage, Forsyth County Schools (GA), Granite School District (UT)
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Our goal with this project is to answer the "What Now" question around formative assessment in K-12 education: Once we find out what students know and don't know, what can we do to bridge knowledge gaps revealed by students' results? SAFARI Montage provides a wealth of proven resources that we know students can benefit from consuming, including curated "Playlists" of multimedia files, documents, and web links customized to a district's curricula and/or textbooks. The problem that we have yet to adequately solve is how to deliver the right resources to the right students at the right time.

SchoolCity Personalized Review Assignments (PRAs) allow teachers to choose a resource to align to each competency covered in a linked assessment. The PRA system then delivers to each student the set of resources that best match the weaknesses demonstrated by that student on the assessment. SchoolCity partners with LOR providers such as SAFARI to allow PRA authors to easily search for resources aligned to competencies.

Crucially, the PRA can be set up by a district-level author for a district-wide assessment, before the assessment is delivered. Teachers can override or supplement resource assignments for their classes if they wish, then students get personalized resources delivered to them immediately after they complete the assessment. Furthermore, PRAs can be deployed by teachers as graded assignments in their classes. So even if the resources are themselves not gradable (e.g. videos), the PRA structure provides a way for teachers to hold students accountable for consuming the resources.

IMS standards are crucial in every stage of PRA functionality:

- PRAs are opened by students via Basic LTI launches from their school's LMS, providing SSO and later grade passback between SchoolCity and the LMS.
- When authoring the PRA, SchoolCity uses the LTI Deep Linking protocol to launch the SAFARI search engine, then receive the chosen resource back from SAFARI. For other LORs, SchoolCity is implementing the brand-new LTI Resource Search standard to retrieve search results in a consistent and easily parsable format.
- When students consume SAFARI resources via the PRA student player, SchoolCity launches SAFARI resources using Basic LTI. (So SchoolCity plays the roles of both LTI provider and LTI consumer in the same PRA application!)
- SchoolCity and Safari are committed to using CASE-formatted learning standard frameworks for communicating about standards as soon as we can get our test items and resources tagged to CASE frameworks.

Forsyth County Schools and Granite School District are currently in the process of implementing and testing PRA functionality with SchoolCity and Safari. We'll be rolling this functionality out to all other SchoolCity districts in Fall 2018.