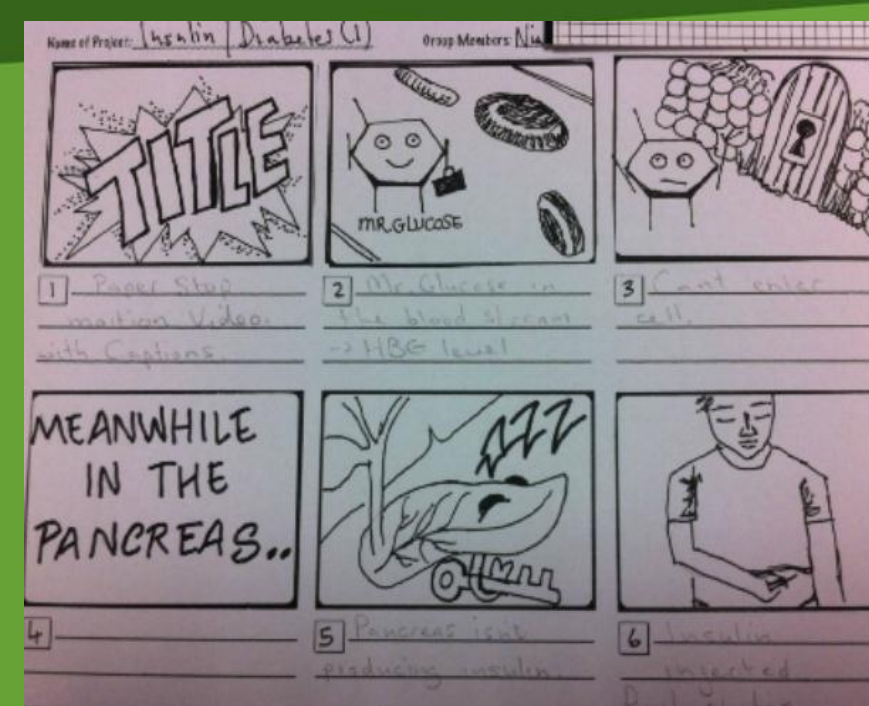


# students learning with communities

## Students as producers of digital, reusable learning resources.



Students Learning with Communities



### Project Overview

For their Students Learning with Communities [SLWC] project, students in the second year Biochemistry class (School of Food Science and Environmental Health) were tasked with developing a digital video, detailing a biochemistry concept, that would engage and inform selected secondary schools and back to education groups. A secondary, but equally as important output of this project, was to create a suite of digital learning resources that could be re-used by community partners as 'tasters' of science at third level through the CLiC Programme.

### Project Details

The choice of digital content was decided by the biochemistry student groups (groups of four,  $n = 25$ ) during the initial meetings and storyboarding of their idea(s). The content had to address, in some way, a biochemical concept. Examples chosen by the biochemistry students included detailing an important biochemical experiment, creative explanations of biochemical hypothesis, addressing a biochemical misconception and exploring a biochemical model. The videos contained many forms of multimedia (video, sound, audio, animation etc.) and were visual, engaging and creative.

### Project Outcomes

At the end of the project, a group of 6<sup>th</sup> year students from a local secondary school, along with a group of back to education students, came to DIT to participate in a 'show and tell' afternoon where they sat into a lecture with the biochemistry students, watched some of the biochemistry student digital resources and toured the Cathal Brugha St campus (including access to the labs). The biochemistry students reflected on their experience and the indicative quotes, below, showcase their development under four thematic headings.

#### Personal

*"At the end of the project there was a sense of achievement...I was proud of the end result".*

#### Academic

*"The lecture in which some of the videos were played for the [SLWC Partners] was extremely enjoyable, and I actually learned a surprising amount from the videos."*

#### Social

*"I enjoyed working with this community as I remember being in secondary school and I think I would have liked to have resources like these videos".*

#### Reflection

*"It helped me to realize that we're not just here just to pass exams".*

