Partners in Class:

A Needs-Based Approach to High School Curricular Support at the National Library of Technology in Prague

Olga Martinová & Pavlína Tvrdá
National Library of Technology in Prague

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National Library of Technology
and High Schools

COOPERATION

- **Why did it start**
- **How it developed**
- **How it works**
- **Most recent workshop**
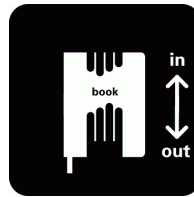- **Future plans**

Our partners

# Why did they come to us?

Graduation requirements:

- **Pre-scientific paper** **(Austrian national VWA)** 40,000 – 60,000 characters
- **Extended essay** **(International Baccalaureate®)** 4,000 words max.

- **Help with resources, paper organization, and citation – as well as academic integrity support**

First workshops' content:

- Library services and resources
- How to search
- How to quote and cite

NTK

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Národní technická knihovna
National Library of Technology

… getting to know each other

Changing preferences

- **Adjusting to curricula and student needs at the right time**
- **Focusing more on critical thinking and evaluating information**

Result: Separate workshops
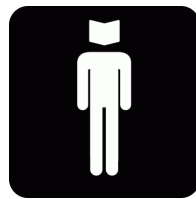
1) **Searching and evaluating information**
   while students are choosing topics

2) **Paper structure, and citations, and reference lists**
   when students start writing

How we do it

- **Close cooperation with teachers/librarians**
- **Peer-to-peer approach**

- **Smaller groups**
- **Engaging content + familiar language**
- **More practice, less theory**
- **More pictures, less text**
- **More interaction, less lecture**

+ having fun preparing it

Easy to remember with pictures

Search like an expert

- Quotation marks - search for whole phrases

Industrial + **Revolution** = **"Industrial revolution"**

International Industrial Division. *Actavo* [online]. [2017-01-24]. Available at: http://www.actavo.com/?sectors =international-industrial-division

Whatever Happened to the VDI Revolution?. *Virtualization Review* [online]. [2017-01-24]. Available at: https://virtualizationreview.com/articles/2015/07 /13/whatever-happened-to-the-vdi-revolution.aspx
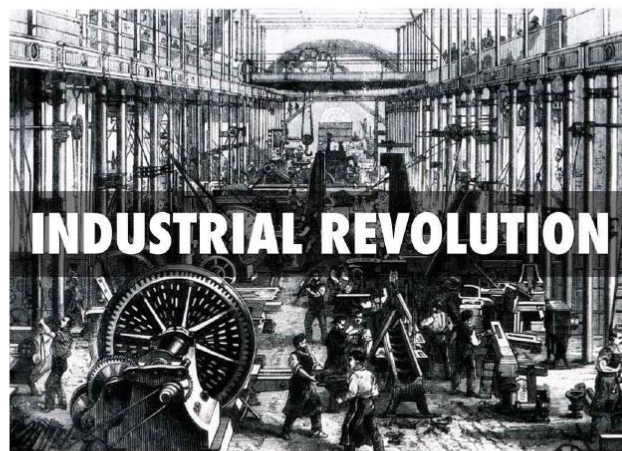
History of The Industrial Revolution. *History Discussion - Discuss Anything About History* [online]. [2017-01-24]. Available at: http://www.historydiscussion.net/history/industrial-revolution/history-of-the-industrial-revolution/1784

Real-life examples

- Don't make the same mistake as Melania

Melania Trump
RNC speech | July 18, 2016

"From a young age, my parents impressed on me the values that you work hard for what you want in life, that your word is your bond and you do what you say and keep your promise, that you treat people with respect. They taught and showed me values and morals in their daily lives. That is a lesson that I continue to pass along to our son," Trump said.

And we need to pass those lessons on to the many generations to follow. Because we want our children in this nation to know that the only limit to your achievements is the strength of your dreams and your willingness to work for them."

Michelle Obama
DNC speech | August 25, 2008

"And Barack and I were raised with so many of the same values: that you work hard for what you want in life; that your word is your bond and you do what you say you're going to do; that you treat people with dignity and respect, even if you don't know them, and even if you don't agree with them.

And Barack and I set out to build lives guided by these values, and to pass them on to the next generation. Because we want our children -- and all children in this nation -- to know that the only limit to the height of your achievements is the reach of your dreams and your willingness to work for them."

CNN

Melania Trump slammed for stealing from Michelle Obama's speech. *Atlanta Daily World* [online]. 2016-07-19 [2017-04-19]. Avaliable at: https://atlantadailyworld.com/2016/07/19/melania-trump-slammed-for-stealing-from-michelle-obamas-speech/

Exercise

Rushmore no more

- Use Britannica and finish the sentence: "Mount Rushmore National Memorial, colossal sculpture…"

- Who are the heads?

π

3.1415926535897932X
8462643X83279502X84197

HORSEY, David. Democracy goes trivial with the Donald Trump/Lindsey Graham feud. *Los Angeles Times* [online]. [2015-07-24]. Available at: http://www.latimes.com/opinion/topoftheticket/la-na-tt-trump-graham-feud-20150724-story.html
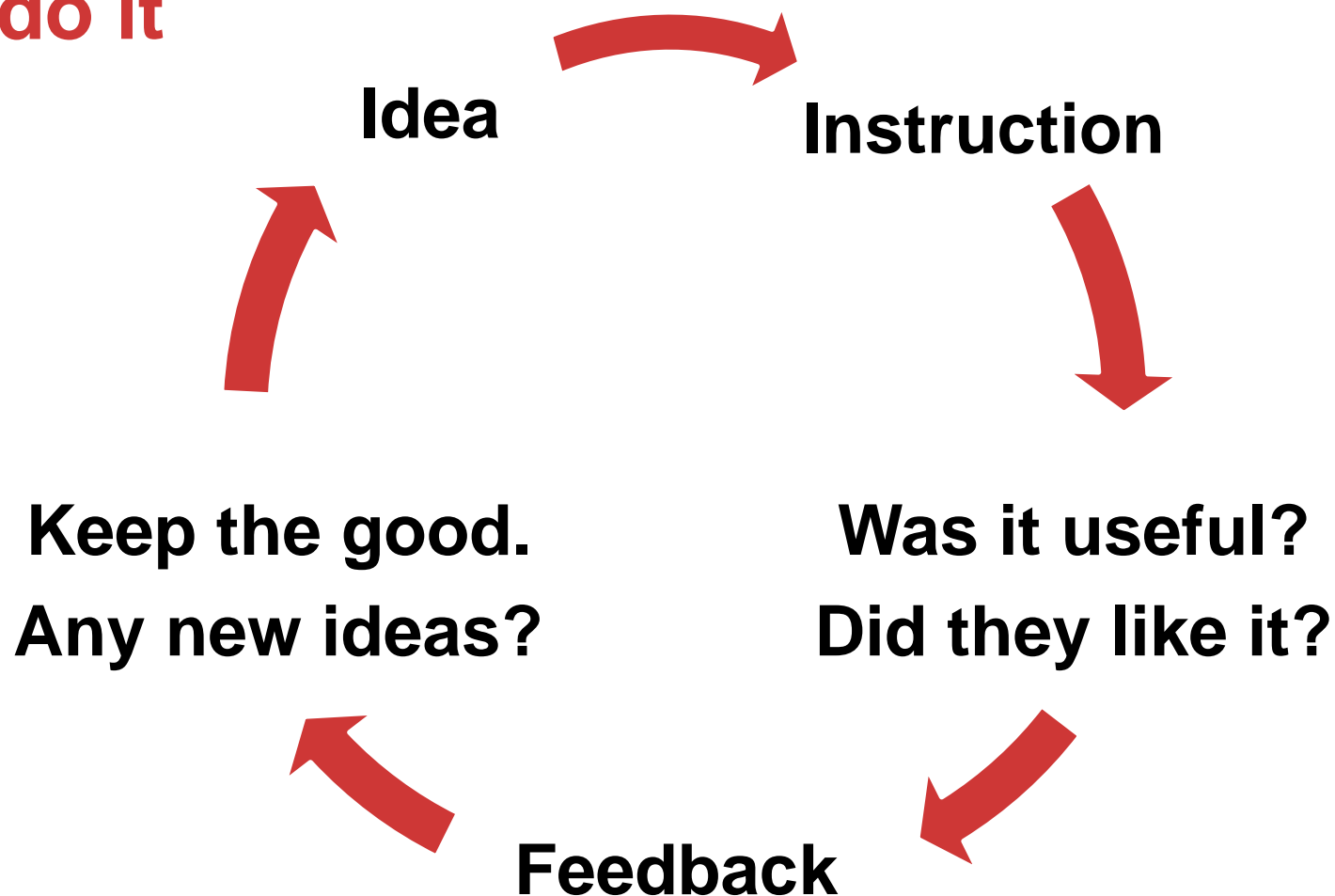
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… in action

Different schools, different approaches

We recommend specific tools and resources based on school preferences for:

- **Language**
- **Referencing style/method**
- **Reference Tools (Zotero, CitacePro…)**
- **Topics**

For example

**Waldorf School – more humanities-oriented topics – focus on Google Scholar, JSTOR + CitacePro**

Austrian School – more science-oriented topics – focus on library databases, interlibrary loan + Zotero

How we do it

Idea

Instruction

Was it useful?
Did they like it?

Feedback

Keep the good.
Any new ideas?

Feedback

- **Directly after workshop – captures the impression**

Was the content of the workshop interesting for you? *

	1	2	3	4	5	
Very interesting	○	○	○	○	○	Extremely boring

9 (45 %)   10 (50 %)   1 (5 %)   0 (0 %)   0 (0 %)

Library usage statistics

- **Annual reports for partners (time spent in study rooms, books borrowed…)**

Hours spent in NTK (Austrian school in Prague, 2016)
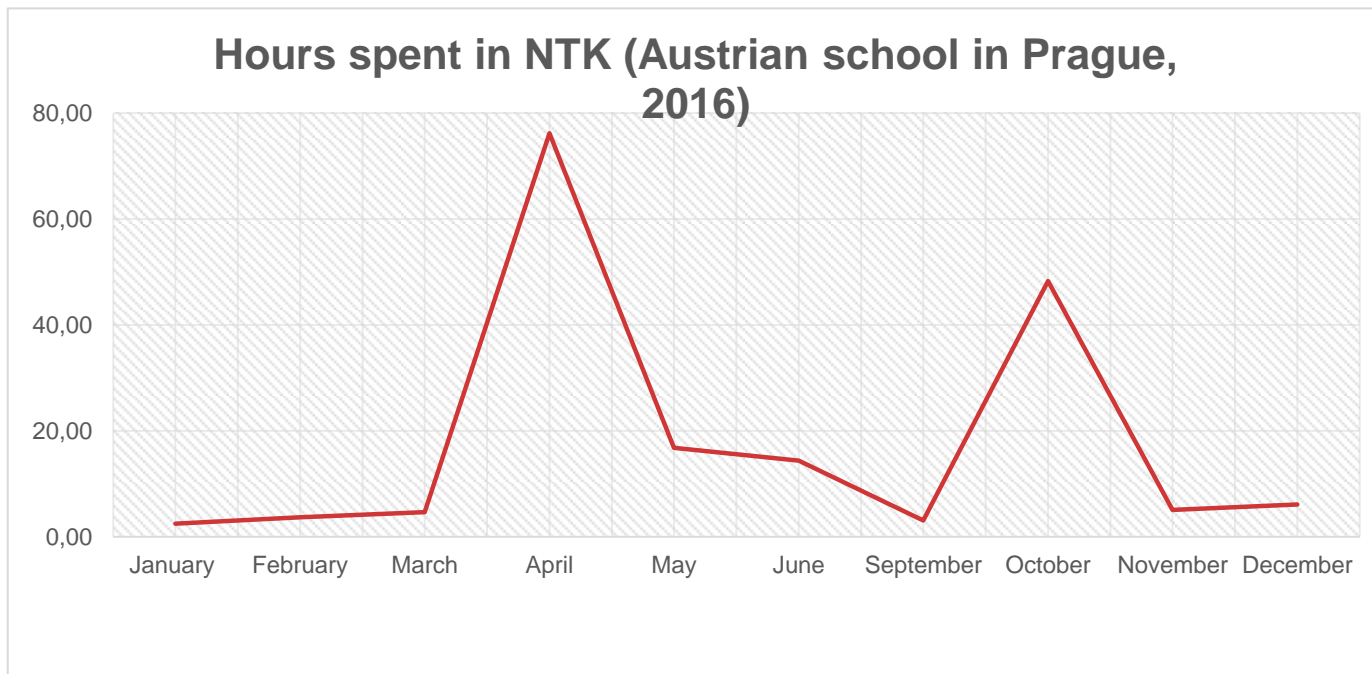
Situation: Czech school system

- **Only a few high schools require some form of final paper/essay in order to prepare students for university education (i.e. not officially embedded in curricula)**

- **Typically no school library or limited sources**

Related:
Our experience with STEM undergraduates

- **Bachelor thesis is often the very first academic paper many students must deal with**

- **Developing academic writing skills at high school would likely increase student success at the university level**

Future plans

- **Close cooperation with our partners – improvement of workshop's content and timing**

- **Focus more on public schools**

Questions?

olga.martinova@techlib.cz   **pavlina.tvrda@techlib.cz**

https://www.techlib.cz/en/