

Using the Inq-Blotter Dashboard to Support Teachers and Students on Science Practices

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Presentation Outline

- Background and Prior Work
- Research Studies
 - Study 1: Inq-Blotter
 - Teacher Inquiry Practice Supports (TIPS) Development
 - Study 2: Inq-Blotter with TIPS
- Discussion and Future Research



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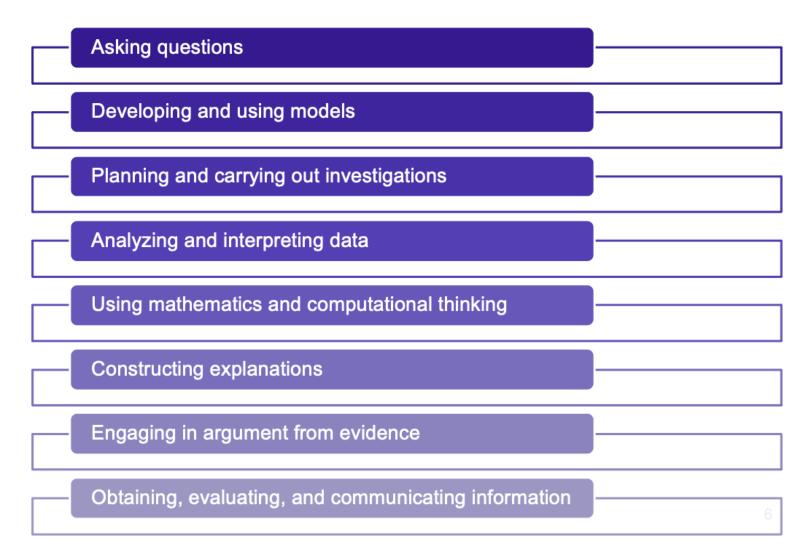


Background

- The number of opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) are increasing
- Students in the United States are under performing in STEM on international benchmarks
 - Ranking 26th in Science and 40th in Math on PISA
- National reform efforts attempt to direct focus towards inquiry
 - e.g., Next Generation Science Standards



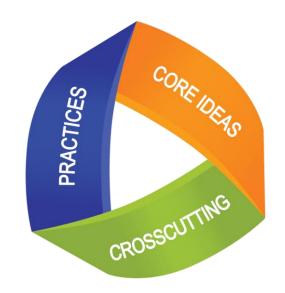
Science Inquiry Practices





Assessing and Supporting Inquiry

- Inquiry practices are difficult to operationalize and measure
- Inquiry practices are challenging
- Science inquiry is multi-dimensional
 - Procedural understandings
 - Conceptual understandings
 - Content understandings, etc.

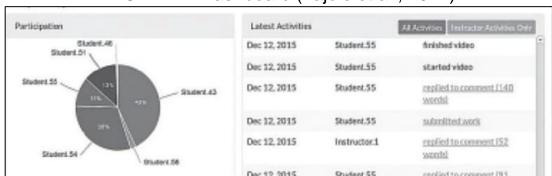




Technologies for Science Inquiry

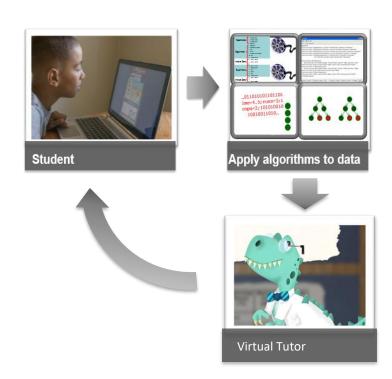
- Online science environments can automatically assess and support students
- Teacher dashboards allow for monitoring students within online environments through:
 - Reports of student activity and contributions
 - Visualizations of student scores on questions
 - Alerts on student progress, etc.







Inq-ITS (Inquiry Intelligent Tutoring System) & Inq-Blotter Teacher Dashboard





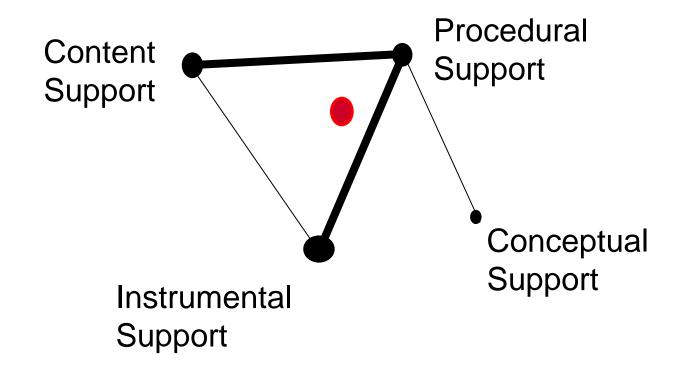
Prior Studies on Inq-ITS & Inq-Blotter

- Inq-ITS was explicitly designed to capture students' sub-practice performance
 - Inq-Blotter can then send fine-grained, actionable alerts to teachers with information at the sub-practice level
- When teachers use Inq-Blotter with real-time alerts, students significantly improve on science practices more than when no dashboard is available
- It is essential to also explore how the alerting dashboard is used



Epistemic Network Analysis (ENA)

 ENA is a method that is used to examine connections between coded qualitative data in networks





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Study 1: Inq-Blotter

RQ1) Are real-time alerts for inquiry practices associated with student improvement?

RQ2) Does the pattern of teacher support provided to students differ in relation to performance on practices?

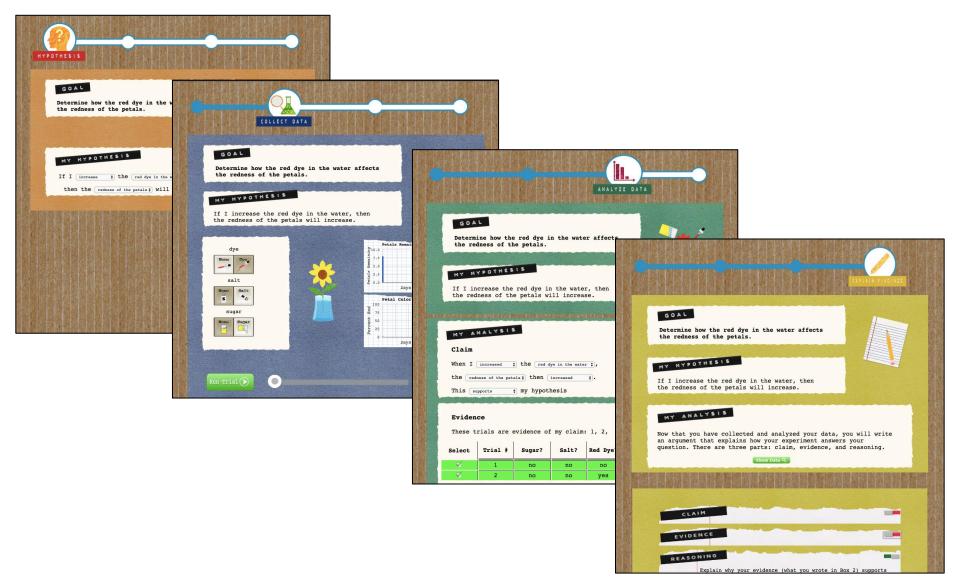


Methods

- Participants:
 - 2 middle school teachers
 - 211 middle school students
- Procedure:
 - Students completed three Inq-ITS lab activities
 - Teachers used Inq-Blotter as students completed Inq-ITS labs
 - Audio data of interactions were recorded



Materials: Inq-ITS Virtual Lab Activity



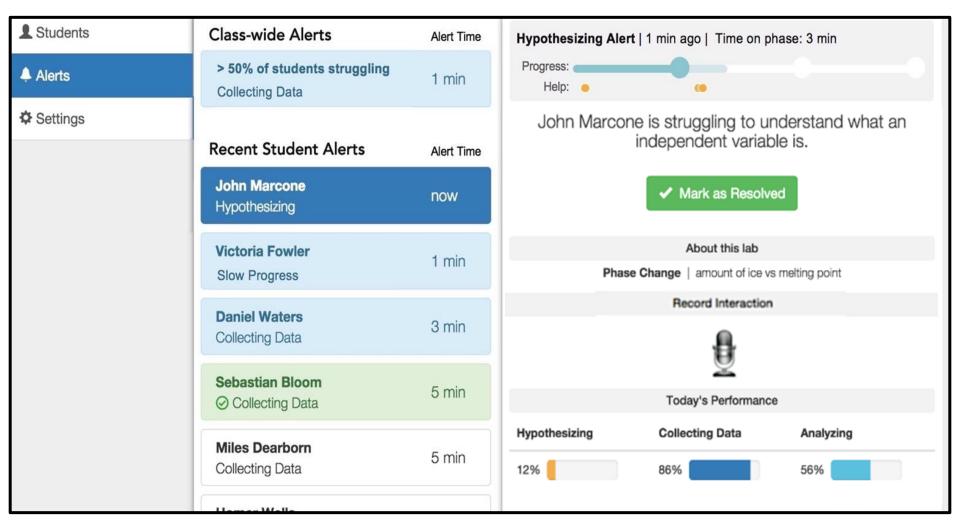


Measures: Inq-ITS Log Data

	1 9
Inquiry Practice	Automatically Scored Sub-Practices
Asking Questions/ Hypothesizing	Selecting an independent variable (IV)
	Selecting a dependent variable (DV)
	Determining the target IV based on the goal
	Determining the target DV based on the goal
Carrying out Investigations/ Collecting Data	Designing a controlled experiment
	Running sufficient trials
	Testing the question/hypothesis
Analyzing and Interpreting Data	Identifying whether results support the initial hypothesis
	Making a claim regarding the target IV and DV
	Interpreting the relationship between the IV and DV
	Selecting sufficient trials to support the claim
	Selecting controlled trials to support the claim
	Selecting appropriate trials to support the claim
	Selecting trials that support the claim
	(Gobert et al., 2013, 2018; Sao Pedro et al., 2013) 1



Materials: Inq-Blotter Teacher Dashboard





Measures: Inq-Blotter Log Data

- Log data from Inq-Blotter was examined in terms of:
 - alerts that appeared for the teacher
 - the student alerts accessed by the teacher
 - the content of alerts
 - timestamps



Measures: Audio-Recordings

- N = 35 recordings were captured and transcribed
- Teacher turns were coded by two raters for types of supports provided
 - i.e., science practices, content, evaluative, etc.



Teacher Discourse Codebook

Support Type	Definition
Orienting	Directing attention to a particular practice
Conceptual	Definition/explanation of an inquiry practice
Procedural	Information on the steps involved in an inquiry practice
Instrumental	The exact actions to take to complete the inquiry practice
Content (Comment)	A statement regarding scientific domain-related content
Content (Question)	Asking the student about scientific domain-related content
Evaluative	Statements regarding whether work is correct or incorrect (Diglor et al., 2018, 2010a, 2010b, 2021)



Analyses: RQ1

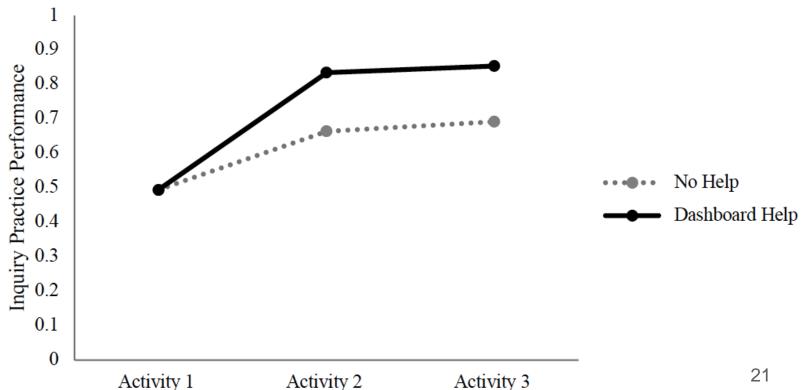
RQ1) Are real-time alerts for inquiry practices associated with student improvement?

- Triangulated log data from Inq-ITS and Inq-Blotter
 - Identified students who were helped (n = 35 students) and matched students who were **not** helped (n = 35 students)
- A Mixed Model Analysis of Variance (MM ANOVA) was used to compare student performance across activities between conditions
 - i.e., help versus no help



Results: RQ1

- The MM ANOVA revealed that students helped based on an alert had marginally significantly greater improvement across activities
 - i.e., interaction effect, F(2, 136) = 2.60, p = 0.078





Analyses: RQ2

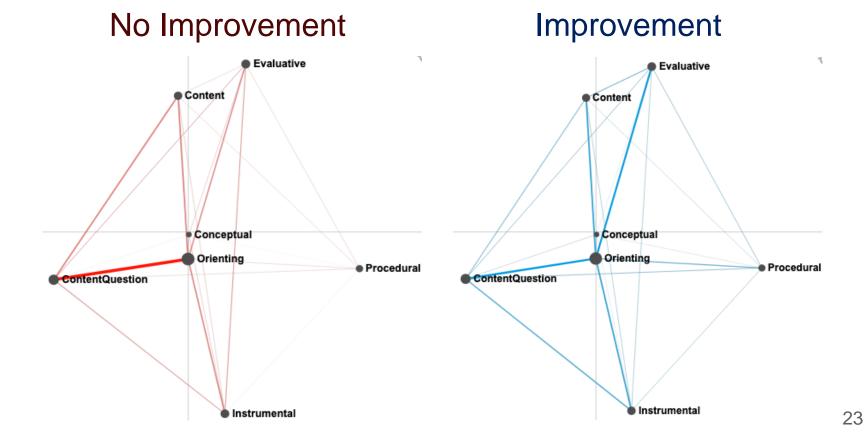
RQ2) Does the pattern of teacher support provided to students differ in relation to performance on practices?

- Triangulated log data with coded audio transcripts
- Compared patterns in support when helped students improved or did not improve on their next activity
 - Epistemic Network Analysis (ENA) was used to make quantitative and qualitative comparisons of patterns of support



Results: RQ2

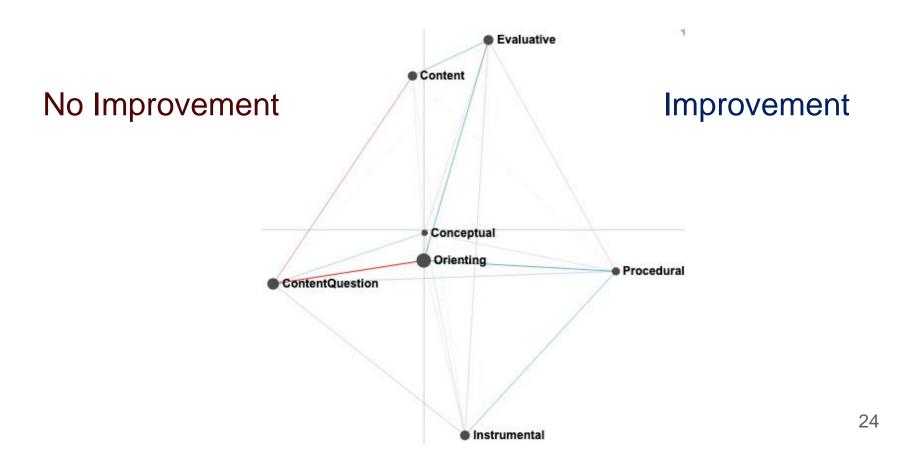
 The pattern of support associated with improvement was significantly different, t(34) = 2.45, p = .04





Results: RQ2 (continued)

 Students who did not improve received combinations of lowerlevel/content supports more frequently





Discussion

- The results of this study demonstrate the potential of an alerting dashboard to guide teacher support on inquiry practices
 - The majority of students who were helped by a teacher significantly improved and maintained their improvement
- The pattern of discursive support significantly differed by whether students improved or did not improve
- These findings have important implications for designing alerts to promote explicit practice support
 - Prior studies indicate potential of providing teachers with example prompts to guide interactions (e.g., Morris & Chi, 2010)

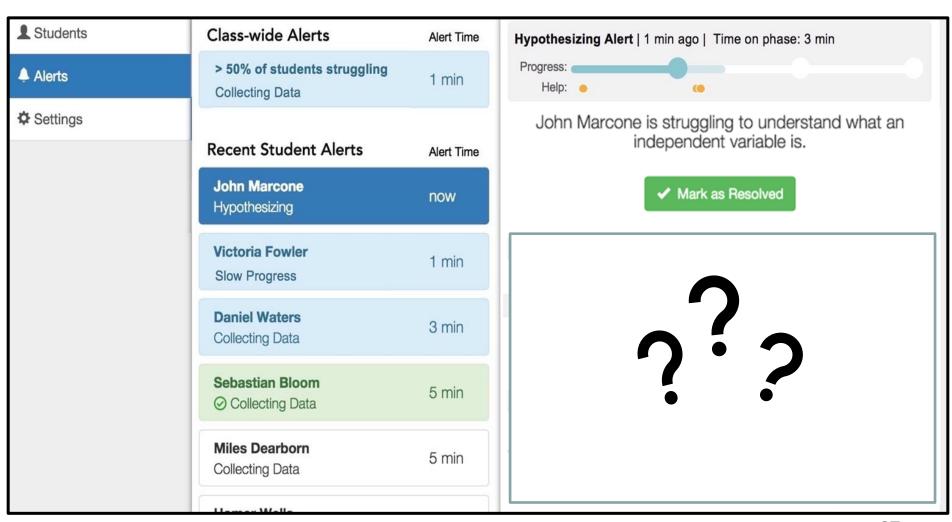


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Motivation for Updated Inq-Blotter Alerts





TIPS Development

- <u>Teacher Inquiry Practice Supports</u> prompts directed at supporting the student's inquiry practices
 - TIPS are sent directly to the teacher within alerts in Inq-Blotter
- Four Categories of Support:
 - Orienting direct student to a specific practice
 - Conceptual define or explain an inquiry practice
 - Procedural inform students of inquiry steps
 - <u>Instrumental</u> give student exact actions to complete the practice



TIPS Development (continued)

Obtained 219 teacher-spoken segments from recorded conversations with the 2 middle school teachers from Study 1

Used segments that had previously been coded for four categories of support (i.e., orienting, conceptual, instrumental, procedural)

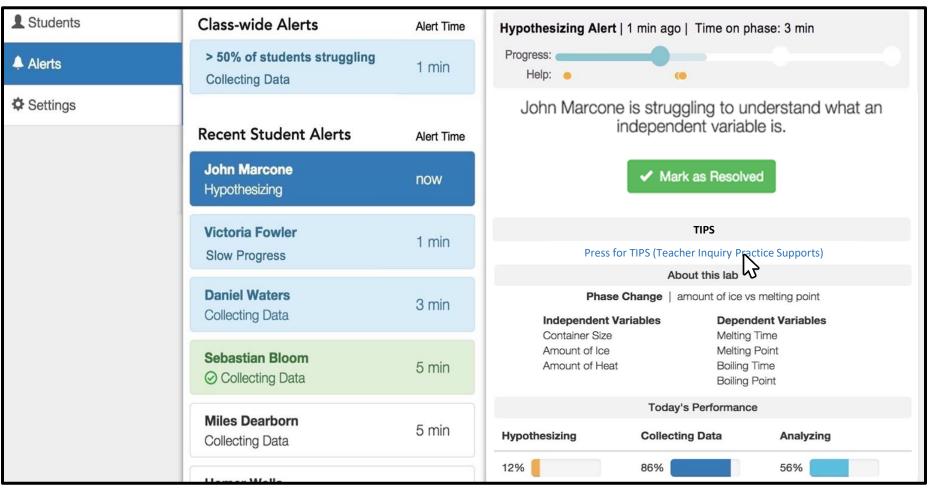
Filtered segments for which students improved on the practice after receiving support from the teacher

Constructed TIPS for each category of support based on filtered teacher segments

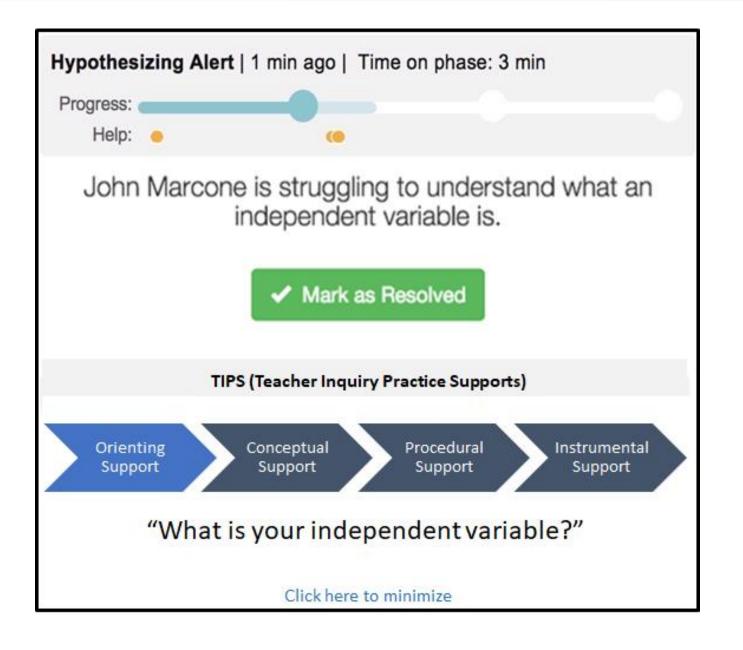
Embedded TIPS into the Inq-Blotter system



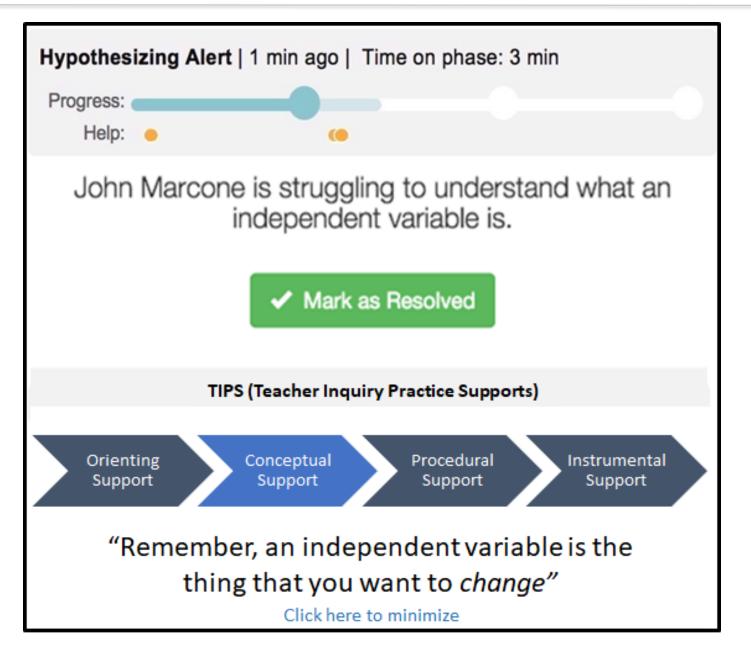
1. Teacher can select "Press for TIPS (Teacher Inquiry Practice Supports)" if she wants to access the prompts



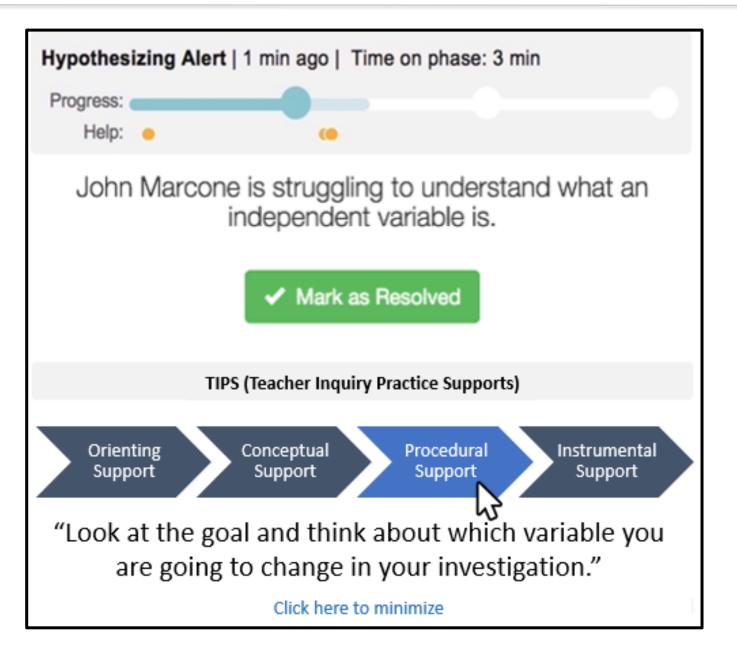




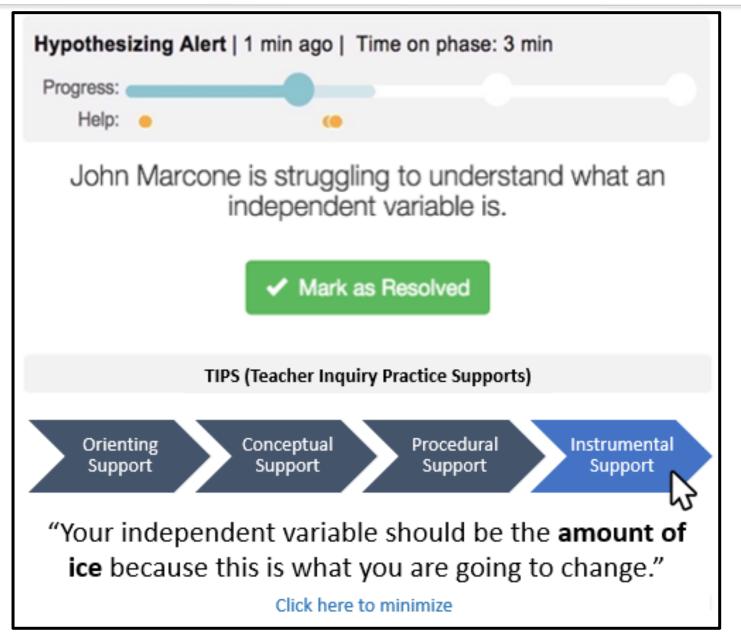














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Study 2: Inq-Blotter with TIPS

RQ1) How do TIPS impact the ways in which teachers support students?



Methods

- Participants:
 - 4 teachers from different schools
 - 2 Remote (Fully Online, Synchronous)
 - 1 In-Person/Traditional
 - 1 Hybrid
- Procedure:
 - Teachers used Inq-Blotter with TIPS as students completed Inq-ITS labs
 - Teachers were interviewed about their experiences



Measures

- Inq-Blotter with TIPS Log Data
 - Clickstream data of the types of alerts and supports that teacher selected and timestamps
- Audio-Recordings
- Teacher Interviews



Analyses

RQ1) How do TIPS impact the ways in which teachers support students?

 Researchers examined data for initial themes that emerged from the data



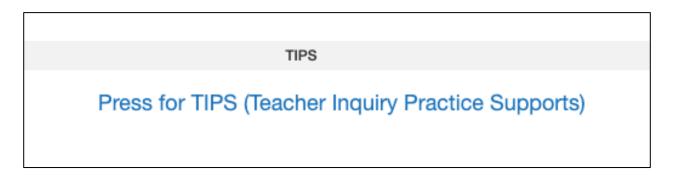
Preliminary Results

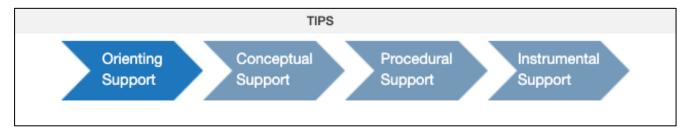
- Three initial themes were identified from the data:
 - Design recommendations for improved usability
 - TIPS helped teachers differentiate levels of support
 - TIPS helped teachers with timeliness



Preliminary Results – Theme 1

- Design recommendations for improved usability
 - Remove need to "Press for TIPS"
 - Simplify language of TIPS terminology
 - Update graphics (i.e., arrows)

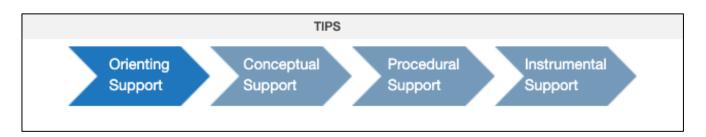






Preliminary Results – Theme 2

- TIPS helped teachers differentiate levels of support
 - "In general, it was helpful to remind me to not jump straight to giving kids the answer. I had a few kids surprise me. They figured things out on their own using the TIPS more often than I thought they would."
 - "I talk to my kids all the time, but it made it easier to identify like a laser what I needed to talk to them about."





Preliminary Results – Theme 3

- TIPS helped teachers with timeliness
 - "The TIPS saved me time to clarify what is going on...I was able to make my way around the room to more students. When you add [that] up...it really saves me time."
 - "[TIPS] helped me with starting that communication with the students. How much did that decrease the amount of time?
 Probably 1-2 minutes. I get those TIPS, and that's what I would send the kids online."



Discussion

- The preliminary results of this study provide insights that can inform future design iterations of Inq-Blotter with TIPS
- Our early findings also suggest alerts that include helpful suggestions, like TIPS, may be useful in promoting the support that teachers provide to their students on science inquiry practices
- On-going analyses will look at log data to determine how students' performances changed as a result of teachers using TIPS in their instruction



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Discussion

These findings h Virtual ortant implications for how alerting Science dashboards can students actices Labs Facilitating Support on Science Inquiry **Practices Alerting** Dashboard **Improving Teacher Support TIPS**



Future Research

- Future work will examine:
 - Testing updated design elements
 - Examining discourse and running controlled comparisons to explore student performance in relation to design features
 - Expanding the systems to support Using Mathematics in Science at the high school level



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Thank you!

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Example Interview Questions

- How does TIPS facilitate the timeliness with which you can help your students with inquiry (compared to your usual method/Blotter)?
- How well does TIPS help you identify which skills individual students are having difficulties with (compared to your usual method/Blotter)? Please explain.
- How well does TIPS promote communication and collaboration with your students one-on-one (compared to your usual method/Blotter)? Please explain.



Results: RQ2 (continued)

- Example of teacher support when a student improved:
 - T: You're doing an experiment but you're not targeting your hypothesis [Evaluative Comment], so what's your hypothesis? [Orienting Scaffold]...What is the only thing on here that you're going to change? [Procedural Scaffold]

- Example of teacher support when a student did not improve:
 - T: So that one should be loudness [Instrumental Support]. Let's look [Orienting Support]... So your gonna change the speed of the wave and thats gonna effect the loudness [Content Support; Instrumental Support]

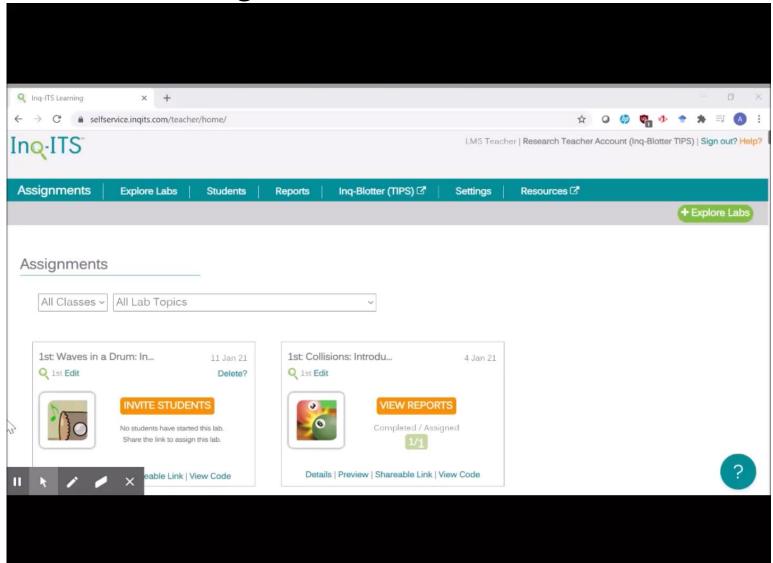


TIPS Development (continued)

- Obtained 219 teacher-spoken segments from recorded conversations with the 2 middle school teachers from Study 1
- 2. Coded segments for four categories of support (i.e., orienting, conceptual, instrumental, procedural)
- 3. Filtered segments for which students improved on the practice after receiving support from the teacher
- 4. Constructed TIPS for each category of support based on filtered teacher segments
- 5. Embedded TIPS into the Inq-Blotter system

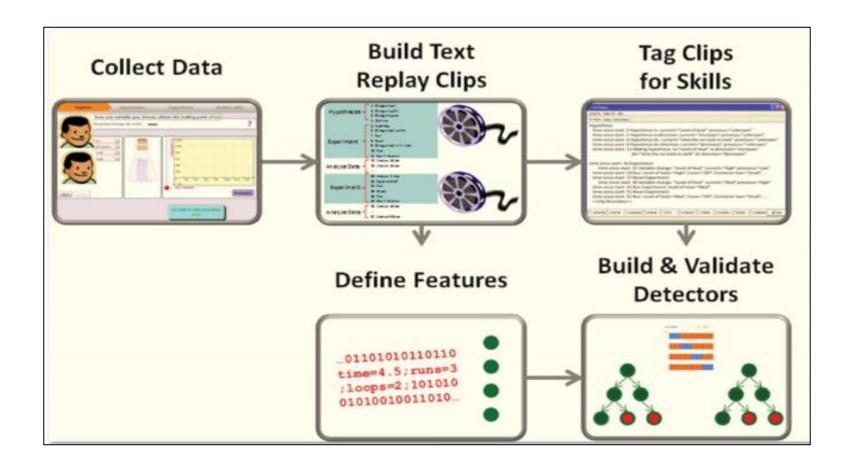


TIPS Walkthrough





Educational Data Mining – Text Replay Tagging





Inquiry Practice Subcomponents

Inquiry Practice	Sub-Practice	
Hypothesizing	Selecting target IV	
	Selecting target DV	
Collecting Data	Designing a controlled experiment	
	Running a pair of controlled trials	
	Testing the hypothesis	
Interpreting	Identifying whether results support the initial hypothesis	
Data	Examining the target IV	
	Examining the target DV	
	Interpreting the relationship between the IV and DV	
Warranting Data	Selecting more than one trial	
	Selecting controlled trials	
	Selecting appropriate trials that show the relationship between the IV and DV	
	Selecting trials that support the claim	



Measures: Inq-Blotter Log Data

- Inq-ITS Log Data
 - Automated scoring of science practices (from 0-1 points)
- Inq-Blotter Log Data
 - Clickstream data of which students were helped, science practices helped, and timestamps
- Audio-Recordings
 - N = 35 recordings were captured and transcribed
 - Teacher turns coded by two raters for types of supports provided (i.e., science practices, content, evaluative, etc.)



Teacher Discourse Codebook

Support Type	Definition	Example
Orienting	Directing attention to a	"Let's look at analyzing your data Let's
Scaffold	particular practice	look at your data"
Conceptual	Definition/explanation of an	"The independent variable is what's
Scaffold	inquiry practice	manipulated. So what are you changing
		here?"
Procedural	Information on the steps	"You always run a control[led trial] and you
Scaffold	involved in an inquiry	always run it more than one time. Why do you
	practice	think you need to run it more than one time?"
Instrumental	The exact actions to take to	"It's saying to you that it didn't changeSo
Scaffold	complete the inquiry	you need to click 'no change'."
	practice	
Content	A statement regarding	"So that's saying, ya know, if you have a
Comment	scientific domain-related	shorter string the wave speed will be faster, if
	content	you have a longer string it'll be faster."
Content	Asking the student about	"So you're gonna change the speed of the
Question	scientific domain-related	wave and that's gonna effect the loudness?"
	content	
Evaluative	Statements regarding	"According to this you're struggling with
Comment	whether student work is	your hypothesis."
	correct or incorrect	
		/D'. I



Trends in dashboard use during remote learning, definitions, and examples.

	Trend	Definition	Example [Segment ID]
Effective Use of Dashboard Features	Identifying Student Difficulties (N = 18)	Teacher identifies and provides individual support to a student on an inquiry practice in response to a dashboard alert	T: I am seeing that you are probably having some troublegraphing?And you only have three data pointsYou must at the very minimum have 5 so you can actually see how the data points sort of line up[52]
	Identifying Trends in Class Data $(N = 12)$	Teacher identifies a pattern across multiple students' inquiry performance based on dashboard	T: I see a whole bunch of them having trouble with the modeling because they don't have enough data points to see the fitAlright I'n gonna do some quick pops into the rooms jus to make that note to them [28]
Effective	Identifying Inactive Students $(N = 7)$	Teacher identifies students working on the wrong lab or not actively completing the lab based on dashboard	T: Flower growth?Well I think one of my student groups is working on the flower lab instead of this [Ramp] one [18]
Limitations	Communic ation Limitations $(N = 15)$	Teacher identifies or experiences limitation related to modes of communication during dashboard use as result of being remote and lacking inperson contact	T: This would be so much easier if I could take a glance over their shoulder. It takes so much extra time to get them to share everything to take a look [17]
	General Technical Challenges (N = 11)	Teacher identifies or experiences internet, computer, or meeting programs interfering with dashboard use	T: I don't understand, sometimes [the meeting] breakout room allows me to move them to main session and sometimes they don't so I cannot help her[67]



Results (RQ1)

- 80% (32/40) of students significantly improved on their next opportunity at the practice after receiving teacher help
 - Opportunity 1 (M = .50, SD = .21) improved to opportunity 2 (M = .82, SD = .27, t(39) = -5.119, p < .001)

Inquiry Practice	Number of Students who Improved
Hypothesizing/Forming Questions	15/17 (88%)
Collecting Data	3/6 (50%)
Analyzing Data	14/17 (82%)

 80% (16/20) of students in both Mr. J's and Ms. F's class improved

Results (RQ1; Continued)

- Results of the repeated measures ANOVA revealed a significant main effect of the number of activities/opportunities, F(2, 68) = 22.91, p < .001, $\eta^2 = .40$.
 - This finding indicated that there were significant differences in student performance on inquiry practices between either the first, second, or third activities.
- Follow-up comparisons using paired-samples t-tests revealed that:
 - students significantly improved from their first opportunity (M = .49, SD = .20) to their second opportunity (M = .83, SD = .24), t(34) = -5.56, p < .001, d = -.94,
 - students also significantly improved from their first opportunity (M = .49, SD = .20) to their third opportunity (M = .85, SD = .26; t(34) = -5.84, p < .001, d = -.99)
 - there were no significant differences between students' performance on their second (M = .83, SD = .24) and third opportunities (M = .85, SD = .26; t(34) = -.49, p = .63, d = -.08



Results (RQ1; Continued)

- Results indicated that there was a marginally significant interaction between type of support students received and the number of activities completed, F(2, 136) = 2.60, p = .078, $\eta^2 = .04$ (with an alpha of .05).
 - Post hoc comparisons revealed that while student performance on activity 1 was the same across groups (as students were matched based on their performance on activity 1; M = .49, SD = .20), the students who were helped by a teacher in response to Inq-Blotter performed significantly higher on their second activity (M = .83, SD = .24) compared to students not helped (M = .66, SD = .35; F(1, 68) = 5.60, p = .021)
 - as well as marginally significantly higher on their third activity (M = .85, SD = .26) compared to students who were not helped (M = .69, SD = .36; F(1, 68) = 4.70, p = .034; with a corrected alpha of .025).
 - There was also a significant between subjects main effect of condition where students who received help (M = .72, SD = .23) performed significantly higher overall relative to students who did not receive help (M = .62, SD = .29; F(1, 68) = 6.28, p = .015, η^2 = .09).
 - A significant main effect was also found for task (F(2, 136) = 26.89, p < .001, $\eta^2 = .28$)



ENA for Activity 1 to Activity 3

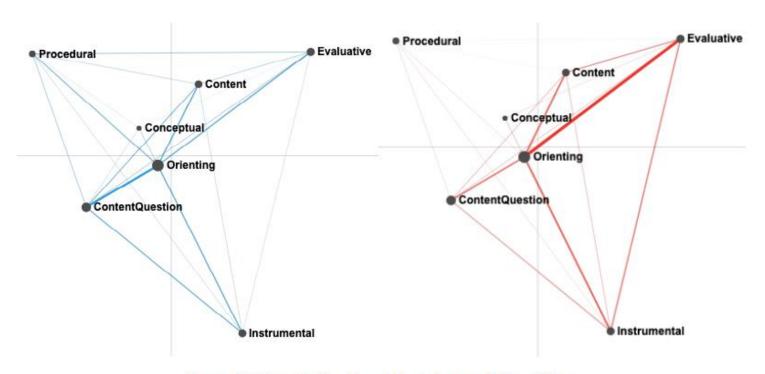


Figure 6. Networks for when students improved (blue; left) or did not improve (red; right) from the first to the third opportunity.



ENA for Activity 1 to Activity 3

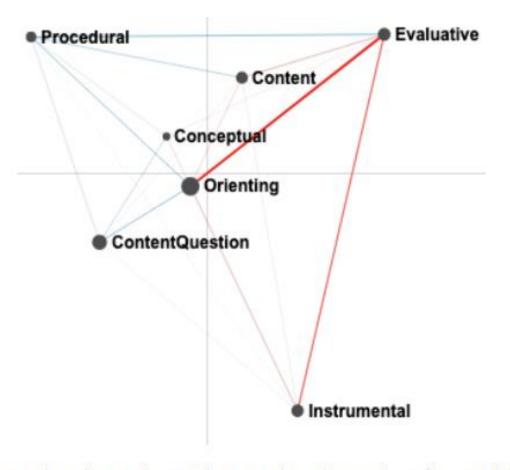


Figure 7. The subtracted network comparing when students improved (blue) or not (red) from the first to the third opportunity.

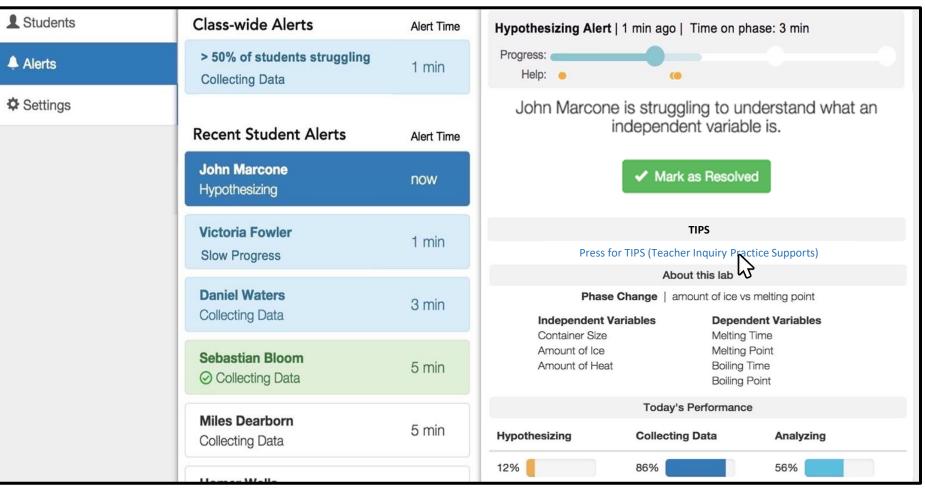


TIPS Walkthrough

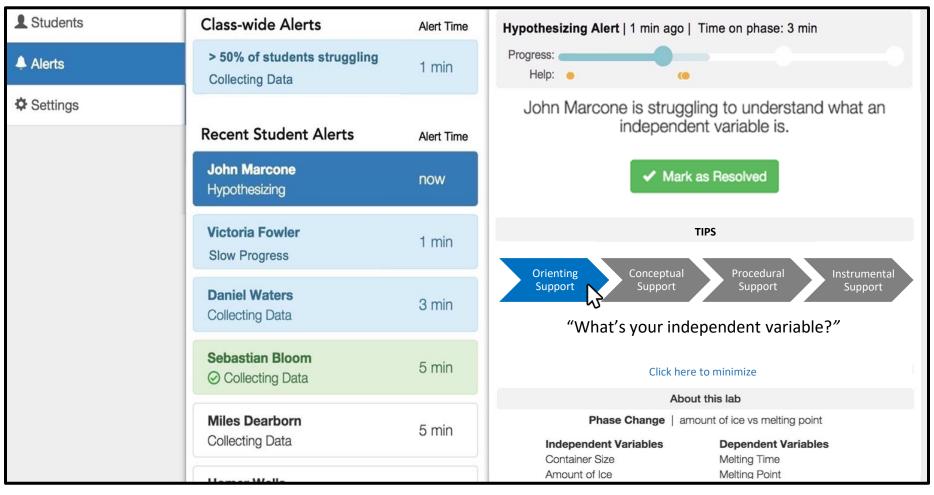
The following slides include screenshots of the Inq-Blotter dashboard with the new TIPS:



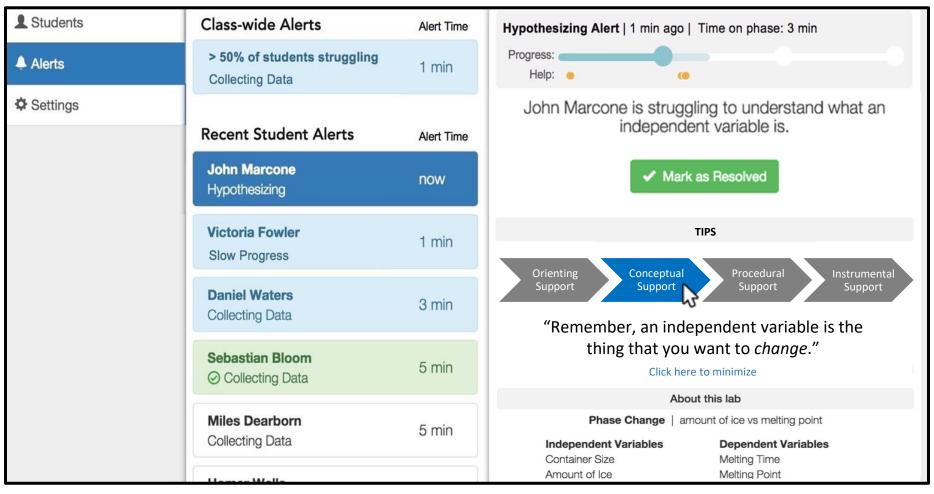
1. Teacher can select "Press for TIPS (Teacher Inquiry Practice Supports)" if she wants to access the prompts



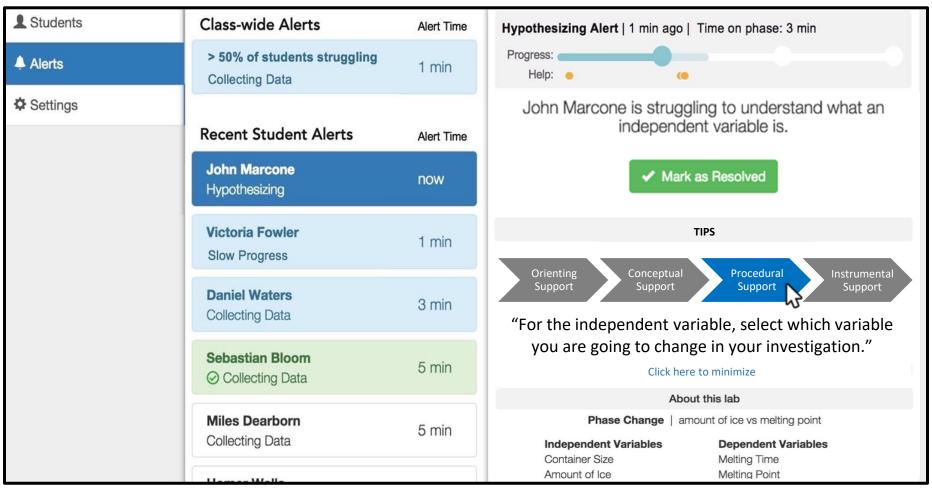




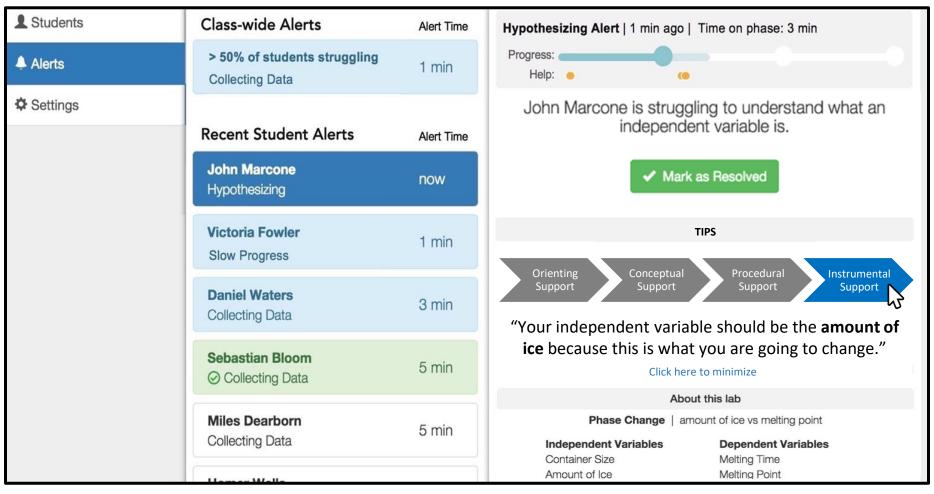














More Examples

 The next few slides have examples of TIPS for the different types of alerts that may appear



More Examples - Hypothesizing

Type of Alert	Alert Text	
1. Untestable hypothesis	John has created a hypothesis that targets a dependent variable to be manipulated, and an independent variable to be measured. John may be struggling to understand the concept of a variable or what a hypothesis is.	
2. IV false	John has created a hypothesis that targets a dependent variable to be manipulated, and may be struggling to understand what an independent variable is.	
3. DV false	John has created a hypothesis that targets a independent variable to be measured, and may be struggling to understand what an dependent variable is.	



More Examples - Hypothesizing (continued)

Type of Alert	Alert Text
4. Off Goal (IV & DV)	John has created a testable hypothesis, but the variables selected will not help them reach the goal of the assignment.
5. Off Goal (IV)	John has created a testable hypothesis, but the independent variable selected will not help them reach the Goal of the assignment.
6. Off Goal (DV)	John has created a testable hypothesis, but the dependent variable selected will not help them reach the Goal of the assignment.



More Examples - Collecting Data

Type of Alert	Alert Text
7. Single Trial	John has attempted to start analysis without enough data – either a single trial or no trials. John may be struggling to understand that analysis requires the comparison of multiple trials.
8. Confounded Trials	John is changing too many variables at once.
9. Not Targeting Hypothesis	John is conducting controlled experiments, but is not targeting their hypothesis. The independent variable John is manipulating is not the independent variable specified in the hypothesis.
10. Nominal or Not exploring the space	John ran a controlled experiment that targeted their hypothesis, but did not run controlled trials for all variables their hypothesis calls for.



More Examples - Analyzing Data

Type of Alert	Alert Text
11. IV & DV Incorrect	John has created a claim that has a dependent variable being manipulated, and an independent variable being measured.
	John may be struggling to understand the concept of a variable or what a claim is.
12. IV false	John claimed that an independent variable was being measured, and may be struggling to understand what an independent variable is
13. DV false	John claimed that a dependent variable was being manipulated, and may be struggling to understand what an dependent variable is.



More Examples - Analyzing Data (continued)

Type of Alert	Alert Text
14. Based on the Claim IV, no valid claim can be made with the data collected	John has made a claim that cannot be warranted with the data collected. Either John has collected confounded data with respect to their claim, or has not varied the variable the claim targets.
15. Claim does not match trends in collected data	John has claimed a relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable that is not shown in the data they collected.
16. Not enough trials selected as evidence	John has not selected enough trials to use as evidence of their claim. They may have selected only one trial, or not selected any trials.

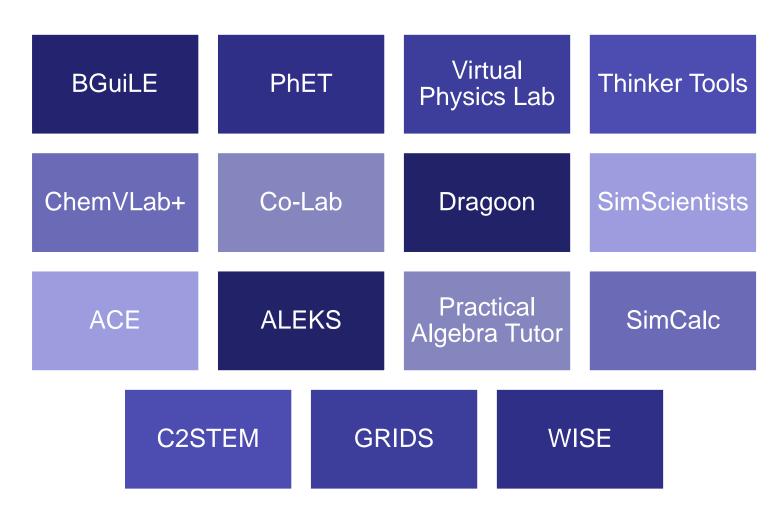


More Examples - Analyzing Data (continued)

Type of Alert	Alert Text
17. Selected trials not control	John selected trials as evidence that are confounded. Students need to select controlled trials as evidence.
18. Wrong IV Controlled	The independent variable John has targeted when selecting evidence does not match the independent variable in the claim.
19. Selected trials do not support claim	The trials John has selected as evidence do not support their claim.
20. Student does not understand if their claim supports their hyp	When selecting if their claim supported their hypothesis, John did could not correctly identify if their claim supported their hypothesis or not.



STEM Student Technologies





Inq-ITS Animal Cell Virtual Lab



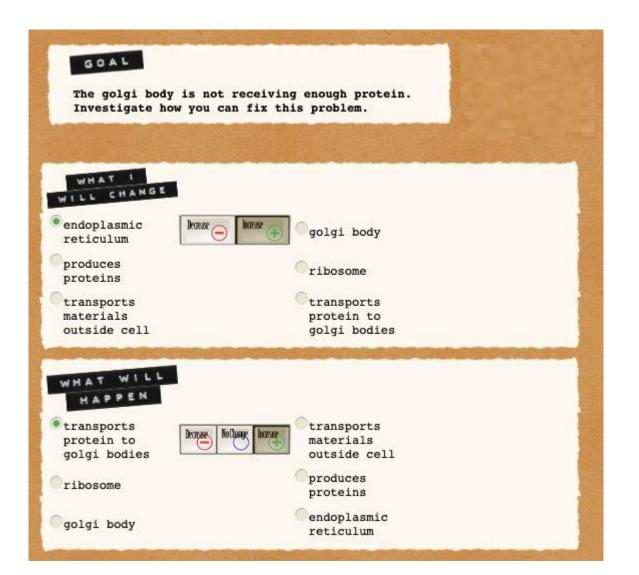






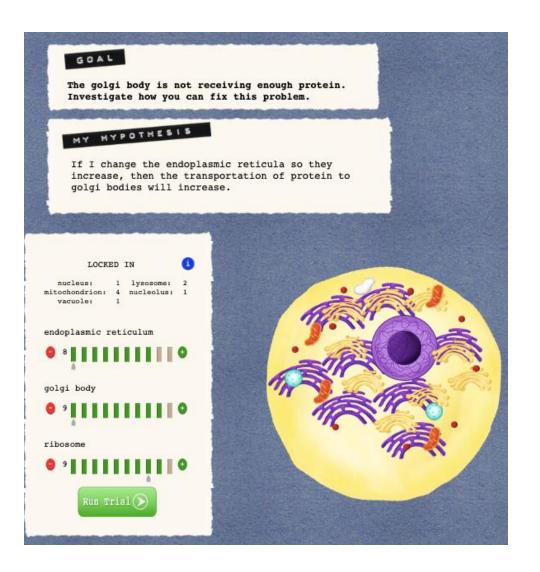


Asking Questions/Hypothesizing

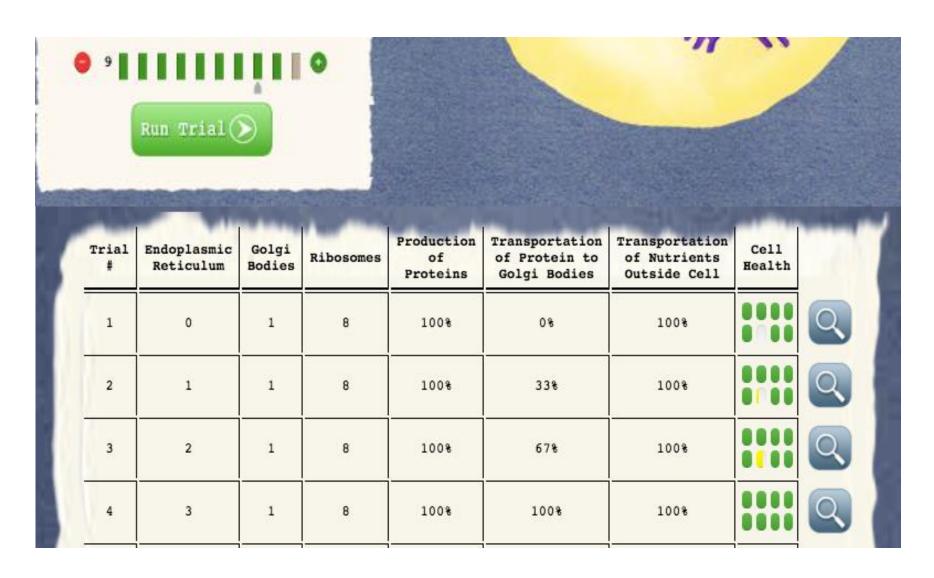




Carrying out Investigations/Collecting Data

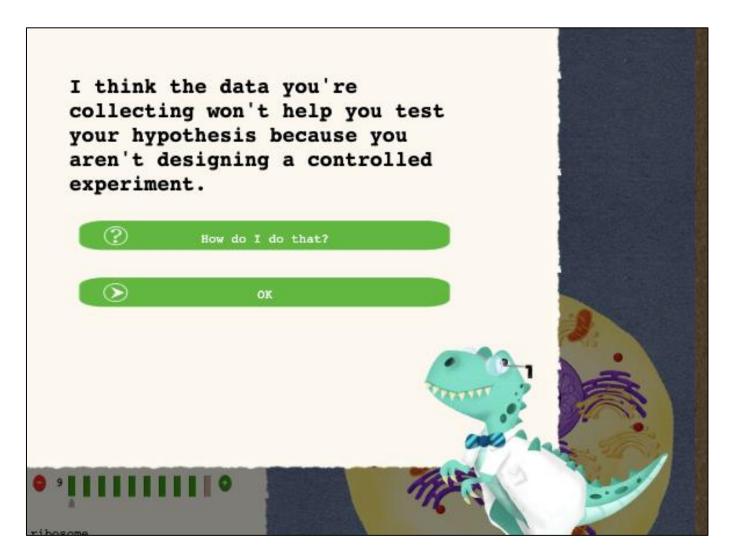








Help from Rex





Analyzing and Interpreting Data





Evidence

These trials are evidence of my claim: 4, 5, 6,

Select	Trial	Endoplasmic Reticulum	Golgi Bodies	Ribosomes	Production of Proteins	Transportation of Protein to Golgi Bodies	Transportation of Nutrients Outside Cell	Cell Health
	1	4	4	8	100%	133%	400%	
	2	4	1	5	63%	133%	100%	
	3	8	9	9	113%	267%	900%	
V	4	8	9	9	113%	267%	900%	0000
V	5	5	9	9	113%	167%	900%	
V	6	2	9	9	113%	67%	900%	



Explaining Findings in Writing

