All Together Now:
Teachers as Research Partners in the Design of Search Technology for the Classroom

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Technology in the classroom

The **integration** of **technology** into **classrooms** has not been a smooth process due to **barriers** such as varying teacher perception of technology, uneven access to technology, and a lack of shared vision on how technology can best support classroom curriculum

Searching for learning

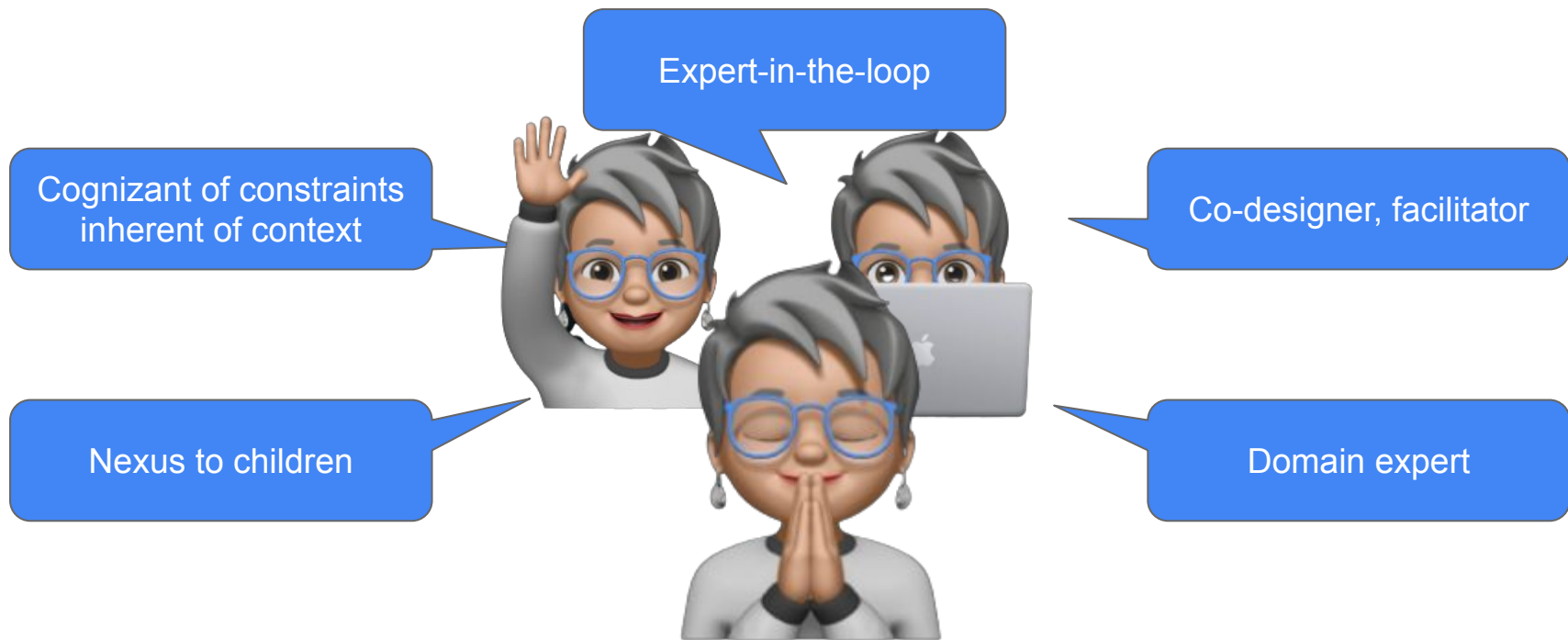Web **search engines** can support information discovery... but which search tool is suitable for the classroom?

The forgotten stakeholder: The Teacher

The perspective of the **teacher** is as indispensable as that the users and designers

Expert-in-the-loop

Cognizant of constraints inherent of context

Co-designer, facilitator

Nexus to children

Domain expert

The advantages of involving teachers

Involving teachers as **partners** in **research** directly benefits research outcomes

The priorities of the research are well determined

Findings make sense

Research design takes practice into account

Research outcomes are usable

It is much more fun

The benefits for the teachers

Teachers can help **bridge** the theory-practice **disconnect**: as the nexus between students and tools, teachers can ensure that how tools are designed match the manner in which they are actually used... but how do *they* benefit?

Teachers can contribute in shaping from the very beginning the design of tools that respond to children's needs and that can seamlessly be incorporated in the classroom to support student learning

Teachers can widen their vision of and perspective on the use of technology in the school context

As opposed to focusing on "busy work", teachers can focus on projects that either serve as a bridge to address classroom technology gaps or let them acquire new knowledge to close the digital divide

Let's continue the conversation

More info

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