

# MUDDLE with Me: Using a Digital-Periodical Framework to Facilitate Meaningful Connections



A workshop given by  
Taylor-Cate Brown and Rebecca Parker

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*MUDGLE with Me: Celebrating the Mess before the Magic*  
video trailer

# MUDDLE's Mission and Model



*Celebrate the messiness of composition  
by bringing the many versions and iterations before  
the final to light.*

*Help non-developers communicate with their machines  
at a developer level - promote ICT Literacy.*

*Promote and facilitate positive interactions  
through constructive and kind peer review.*

- Design a digital-periodical that exists in a public, distributed version-control environment, i.e. **GitHub**
- Write guides to help individuals of all technical backgrounds use Git and GitHub to participate in the community.
- Create new Issues and Projects to engage the MUDDLE community; promote new contributions on MUDDLE's Instagram.

# Digital-Periodical Roles and Functions



**Content Editor** - Taylor Brown

**Technical Editor** - Rebecca Parker

**Lead Tech Advisor** - Griffin Moe

**Contributors/Forkers** - Community Members

- Perform outreach, screen new submissions for bugs or merge conflicts, create new Issues to engage community, and help submitters adhere to mag styles and code of conduct.
- Answer technical questions, coach submitters on setting up their preferred workflow, proof technical guides, manage social media accounts, and compose “riddles” to help us solve bugs.
- Aid in the development of the finished mag, be available to answer technical questions as they arise, and participate in the MUDDLE community.
- Fork the repo, follow the workflow guidelines for submitting, share process files and descriptions via the neighBBoard, and be a source of positive and constructive feedback for community peers.

# ICT Literacy and Digital Communities

Broadly defined, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Literacy is “**a set of skills associated with the use of contemporary technologies for information processing and communications**” (Wilson, et al 66).

- In the 21st Century, most people (depending on access) have some degree of ICT Literacy.
- Useful in all areas of modern life - work, social, travel, security, health, etc.
- Research shows future employment trends favor “the manufacture and delivery of information products and services than...the manufacture of material goods” (qtd in Wilson, et al 66).
- Enables individuals to personally access knowledge, resources, networks, and information at any time regardless of upbringing, economic, or social status.

Citing:

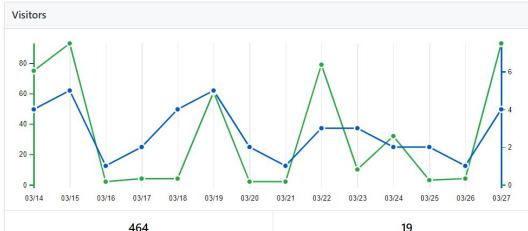
Wilson, et al. "Rethinking ICT literacy: From computer skills to social network settings," *Thinking Skills and Creativity*, vol. 18, 2015, pp. 65-80.



L27: Spiders clinging to waterspouts spark bouts of silliness for good reason.

L28: Nature has better form cite: Tay 🎉.

Taking ICT Literacy One Step Further



# GitHub: Where Social Media Intersects the Developer-Sphere

85 The human being finds himself, or herself, in the middle.  
86 There is as much space outside the human, proportionately, as inside.  
87 Stars, moons, and planets remind us of protons, neutrons, and electrons.  
88 Is there a bigger being walking with all the stars within?

bug

The Sphinx is chasing bugs - riddle me this!  
will be used for technical concerns.

first-aid

Extra attention is needed - someone needs a band-aid! This label will be used for content concerns.

generalConvo

muddleOn

This label alone means no issue or your issues are minute enough where you can muddle on!

neighbboard

Neigh! Neigh! - Neighborly Documentation of Creators' artistic narratives and creative processes.

peaNUTcaution

Warning! Items with this label may be inappropriate for young audiences.

- taylorcate added the **neighbboard** label on Dec 13, 2018
- taylorcate assigned **RJP43** and **taylorcate** on Dec 13, 2018



- publishing-bitbytebit / MUDDLE
- backpacker396 / MUDDLE
- dislocate / MUDDLE
- gkthiruvathukal / MUDDLE
- gmoe / MUDDLE
- jcoyne47 / MUDDLE
- jksily / MUDDLE
- jswatscheno / MUDDLE
- nadinejl / MUDDLE
- tymonaghan / MUDDLE
- zmstell / MUDDLE

Open



# The Positive Features of Social Media



## Facebook, Instagram, & Twitter

- Free to use, easy to operate.
- Attract users of all ages and technical backgrounds.
- Help individuals maintain community ties and relations regardless of proximity.
- Encourage multimedia sharing.
- Increase the distribution of news and information.
- Promote creativity and aesthetic curation.
- Enable individuals to cultivate a social, digital identity.

## GitHub, Slack, & Trello

- Free to use, intermediate operation.
- Attract coders, developers, and project collaborators.
- Designed to handle large contributor streams and input channels.
- Mimic social media platforms but are marketed for working teams and professional clientele.
- Use tagging and direct messaging to help users communicate quickly.
- Enable individuals to cultivate a working, digital identity.

MUDDLE exists somewhere in here – bridging the gap between the social media scroller and the established developer.

The frequent and “indirect” marginalizing power of algorithms in social media feeds.

Internet culture can be anonymous and hateful.

While there are restrictions, there is no structure or reason behind what people share.

If it's public, anyone can see it.

Social Media feeds into people's insecurities; pushes people to lie and create false identities or personas.

People say what they want when they have a screen to protect them.

There can be very little human-support in social media communities.

***How can we create spaces that inhibit these types of behavior?***



The Negative Effects

# How is MUDDLE Different? 🌟

When a user commits something we can enter the history, review, reference, and riddle that commit on the community boards.

Adhering to House Styles let's people play in their own backyards without muddying up the sandbox — encouraging community review all over the neighborhood.

By pointing to creative resources and applications created on GitHub, we show the potential of this collaborative developer space.

Then, on the #neighBBoard, we bring our MUDDLErs together and ask them to describe their process and link beyond our backyard.

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository named "publishing-bitbytebit / MUDDLE". The "Issues" tab is selected, displaying several open issues:

- #3 bloomwordian\_Won't you be my neighbor? + ...  
Praise and gratitude! #23 opened by nadinejl  
generalConvo
- #1 Dearest Nadine, + ...  
#1 opened by taylorcate in nadinejl/MUDDLE  
question
- #16 Help Sphinxy Catch Bugs !?! + ...  
#16 opened by nadinejl  
bug neighbourboard
- #25 jcoyne47\_Won't you be my neighbor? + ...  
Adding documentation and code for log lady twitterbot #25 opened by jcoyne47  
muddleOn neighbourboard
- #1 Let's Workshop! - Introducing December's NEWEST MUDDLErs + ...  
#17 opened by taylorcate  
muddleOn neighbourboard

Each issue card includes the author's GitHub profile picture and the labels "muddleOn" and "neighbourboard". The right side of the screenshot shows a sidebar with other repository sections like Projects, Wiki, Insights, and Settings.

E

SORRY! I COULDN'T HELP BUT  
PLAY WITH YOUR TOYS WHILE  
YOU WERE AWAY AND I HAD  
SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR  
PROCESS...

MEET ME IN:

[YOUR BACKYARD]

[THE MUD ROOM]



## MUDDLE\_MAG HOUSE STYLES

- PLAY NICE WITH YOUR FRIENDS
- WIPE YOUR FEET OFF IN THE MUD ROOM
- SAVE EARLY, SAVE OFTEN

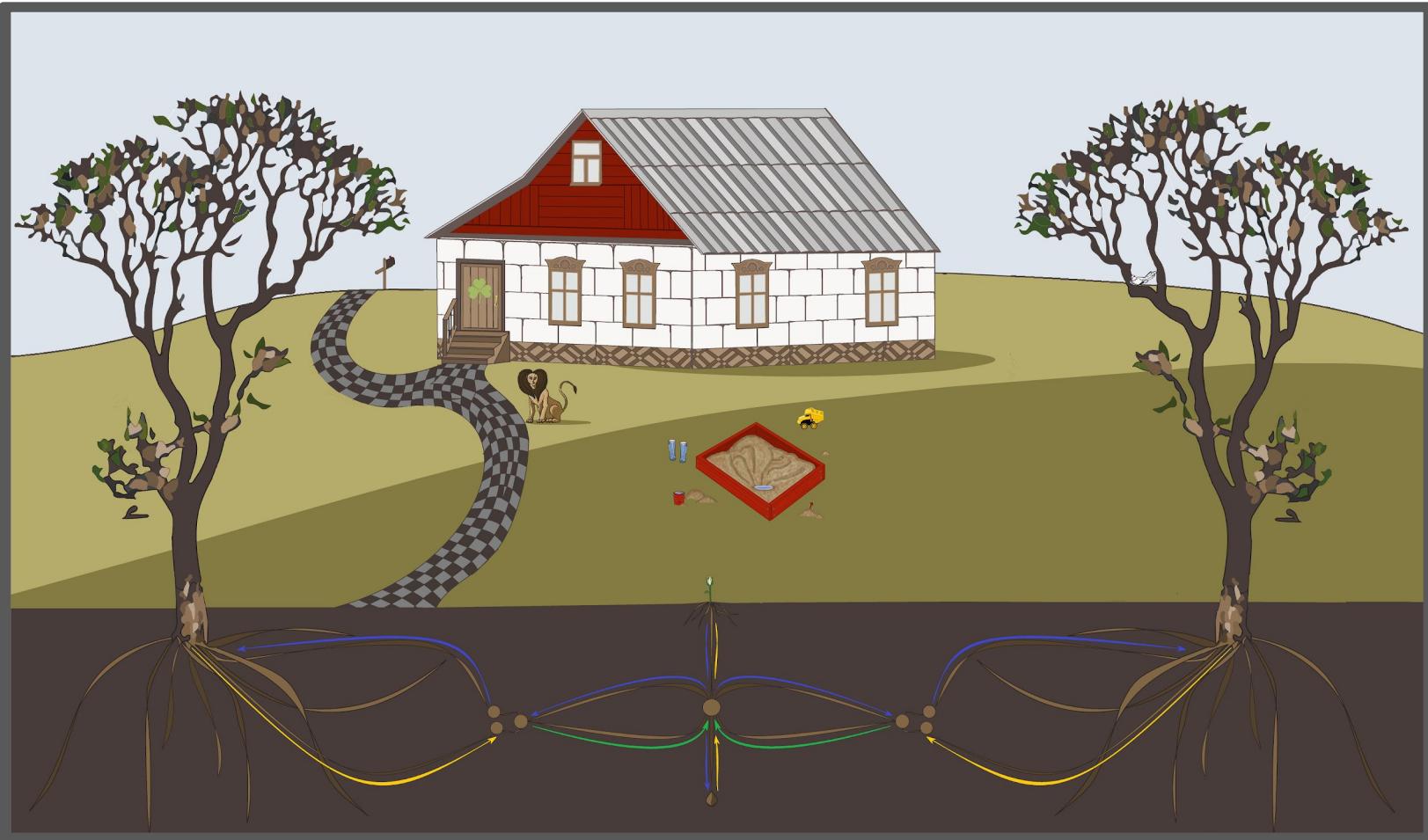


WARNING!

PRODUCT MAY CONTAIN NUTS...

ITEMS IN THIS FOLDER MAY BE  
INAPPROPRIATE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES.

PLEASE PROCEED WITH CAUTION.



{ Welcome to the Backyard }

# Repo Index

Documentation:

[MUDDLE WIKI](#)

[GUIDE TO FORKING](#)

[FILE NAMING CONVEN.](#)

[WORKFLOW GUIDE](#)

[MUDDLE ROLES](#)

MUDDLE Community:

[ISSUES BOARD](#)

[PROJECTS BOARD](#)

[SANDBOX](#)

[NEIGHBOARD](#)

[README.md FILE Ex.](#)

Cross-Platform Engagement:

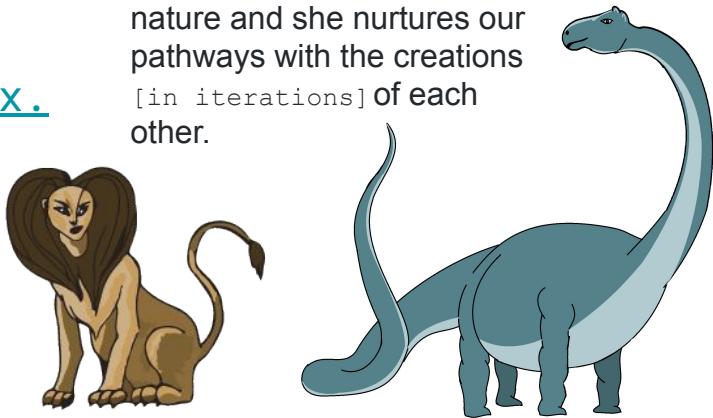
[MUDDLE INSTAGRAM](#)

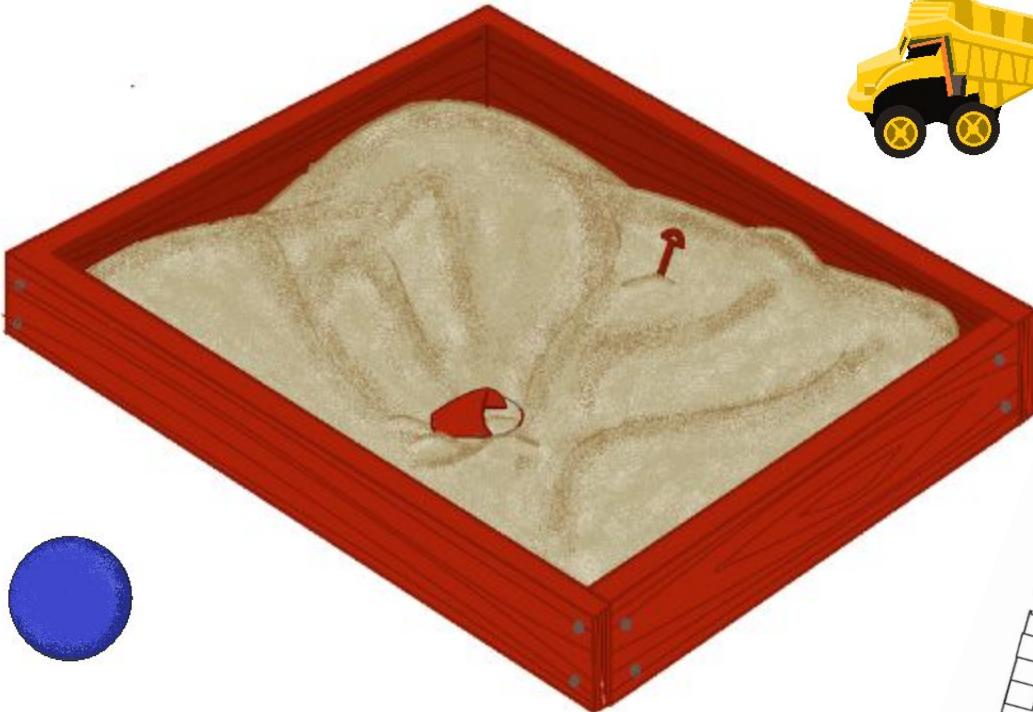
[MUDDLE FACEBOOK](#)

[MUDDLE TWITTER](#)

L42: Where data points to nature and she nurtures our pathways with the creations [in iterations] of each other.

L44: Embracing the spots on this tablecloth means making mistakes but seeing the [happy accidents](#) as lessons grounded [beans] in evidence past and present.





Any Questions?

