

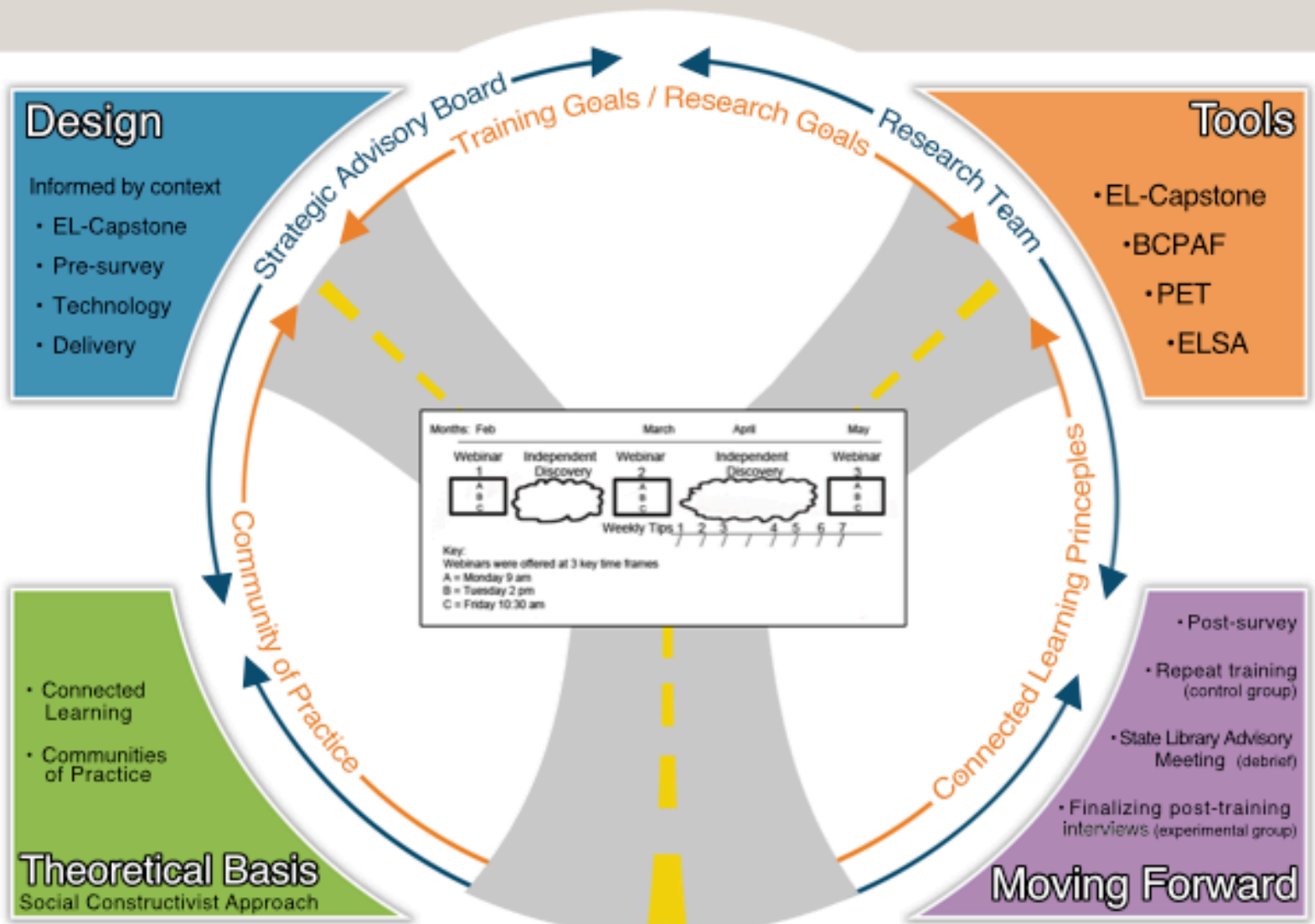
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Communities of Practice and Connected Learning: Breaking Down Walls Through the Use of ICTs

Valuable Initiatives in Early Learning that Work Successfully (Project VIEWS2), is an Institution for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Research Grant. The overall objective of the research is to provide evidence-based methods for planning and evaluating the outcomes of public library early literacy programs, through a two-year experimental design with an online intervention. Forty randomly assigned libraries (13 large, 13 medium, and 14 small) throughout the U.S. State of Washington were included in the two-condition study: control (20) and treatment (20). The focus of this poster is to look at how the design of an intervention, administered to the experimental librarians during Year Two of the study, broke down walls among the librarians widely separated geographically, through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).



Significance of Study

- Provided a theoretical and methodological model for breaking down barriers when dispersed across geographic distances.
- Revisits communities of practice and applies newer principles of connected learning.
- Reinforces the idea that knowledge as well as context are important in design of education using ICTs.

