



University
of Glasgow

Reflexive diaries in summative assessment

Anne Tierney

School of Life Sciences

a.tierney@bio.gla.ac.uk





Why enter the competition?

- **Recognition of project**
 - Peer reviewed
 - Acknowledgement of relevance of the idea
 - Chance to discuss and reflect
 - *Find out if it really is a good idea*
- **Personal recognition**
 - Teaching only academic
 - Importance of teaching in HE
 - Evidence of excellence
- **Student recognition**
 - Acknowledgement of their effort





Challenges

- **Geographical**
 - 378 miles between Reading and Glasgow
- **Time**
 - Workloads
 - Timing of class
- **Solutions**
 - Technology
 - Video conference & Skype





Why diaries?

- **Jennifer Moon**

- Reflective diaries
- Process helps learning
- Mostly used by vocational groups
 - Medics
 - Teachers
 - Nurses

- **John Naisbett**

- “High Tech, High Touch”
- Online interaction aids face to face contact





What do students think?

“This led to a rather uncomfortable weekend for me as I really contemplated for the first time my life after university and I realised the complete lack of direction I have and no real idea where I will end up in my career.”

“I feel this reflective diary is very interesting and a great way to monitor the work you’ve done and keep on top of it. Also, because a diary is something we’ve never done before it doesn’t really feel like coursework or homework because it’s not hard even though we’re learning new things all day.”

“What [else] I got from that is the diversity that can come from even what seems as a small niche and how the changes in time can influence these is just mind blowing and actually really difficult. Makes me almost want to just go back at looking down a microscope.”



