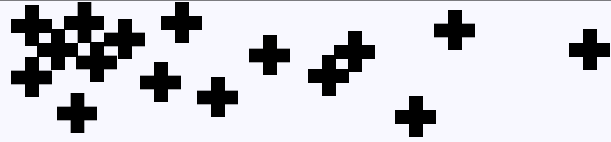# Reflective journals in Mahara

7 December 2023

'Create, Collect and Curate'

Andrew Gibson, Curriculum Innovation Lead, LTA
Marion MacDonald, Educational Technologist, ITDI

UHI

Definition

"ePortfolios, or electronic portfolios, are digital collections of artifacts that showcase a learner's achievements, reflections, and growth over time."
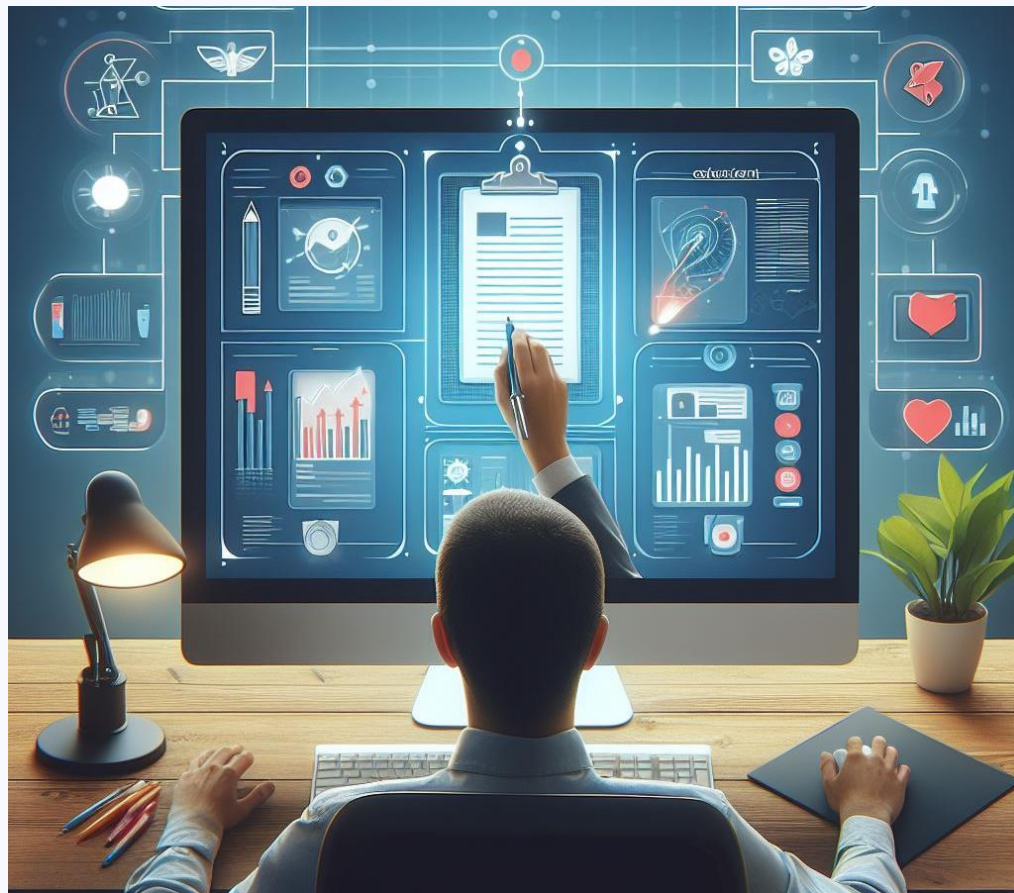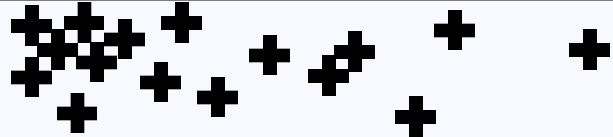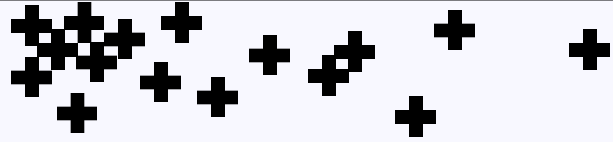
Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Powerful pedagogical tools

ePortfolios have emerged as a powerful pedagogical tool, enabling learners to construct a narrative of their educational journey, from early coursework to advanced projects.
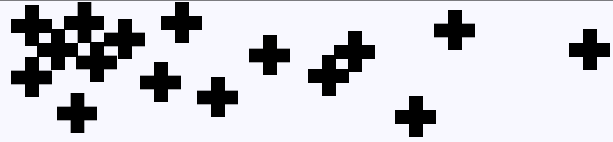
Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Showcasing learning and achievements

A platform for students to display work and achievements in a digital format.
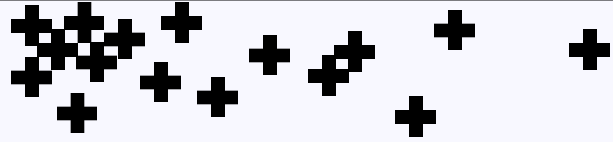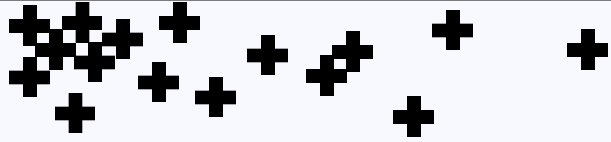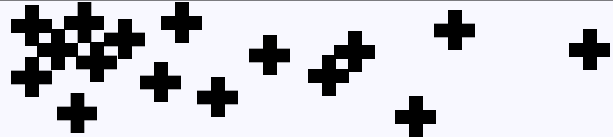
(Flexibility vs structure/control)

Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Reflection and metacognition

Thinking about and understanding their own learning processes.

Image: Bing Chat Enterprise
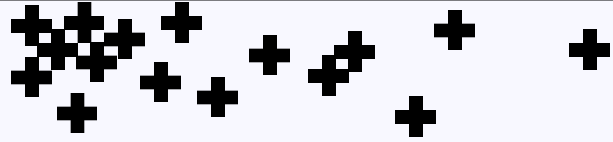
Encouraging reflection

Structured prompts:

- Use guiding questions that require students to reflect on their learning experiences

- Consistent structure (e.g. challenges faced/ accomplishments achieved; or more involved competencies) but vary to keep things interesting, where appropriate
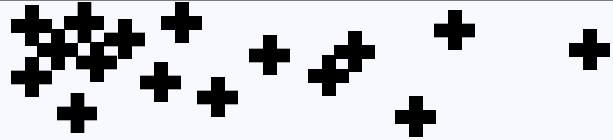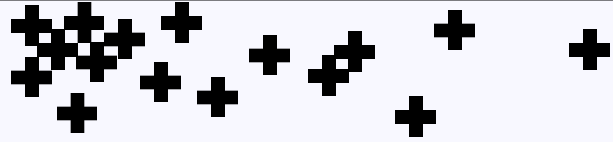
Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Encouraging reflection

Integration of artefacts:

- Multiple formats offer flexibility

- Get students to reflect on these outputs over time (looking for progress and areas for improvement)
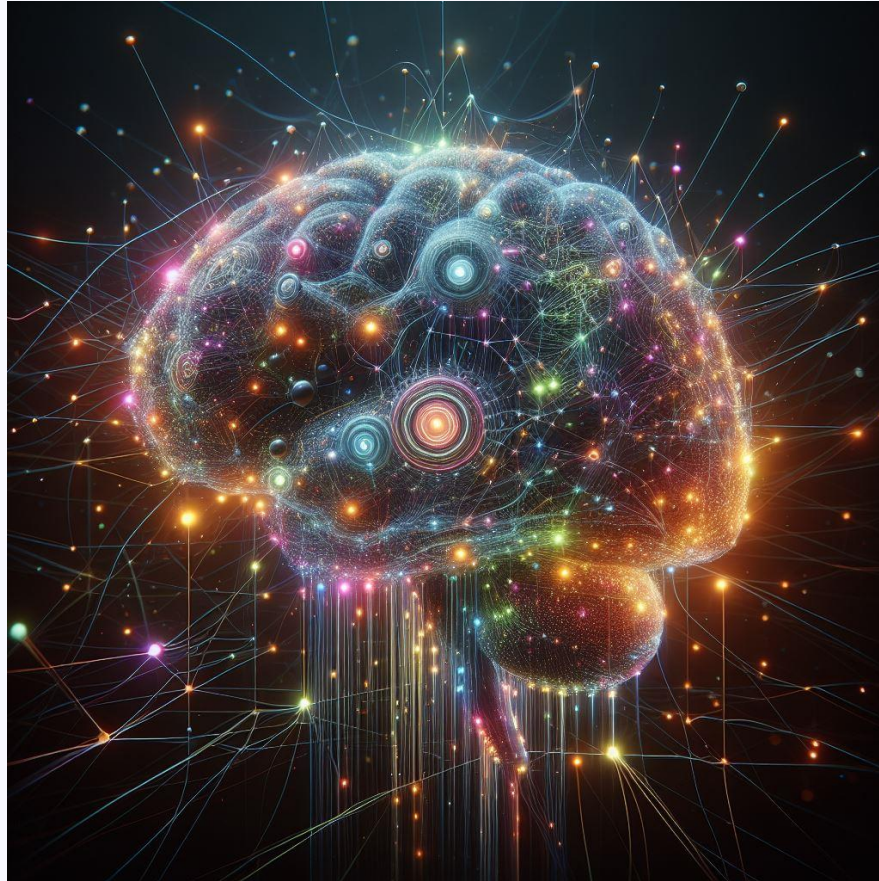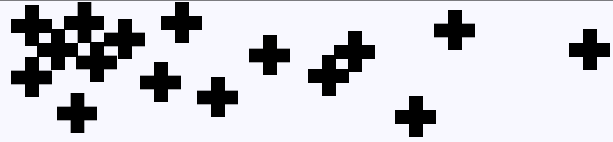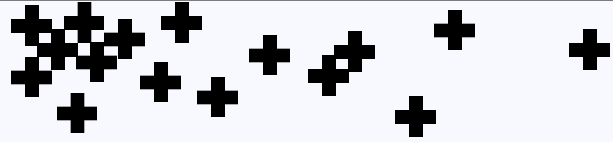
Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Encouraging reflection

Feedback loops:

- Getting help from others – insights into progress
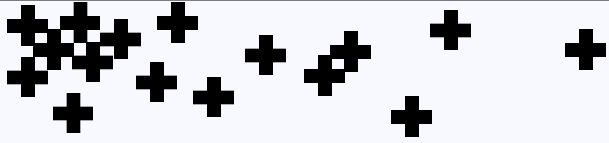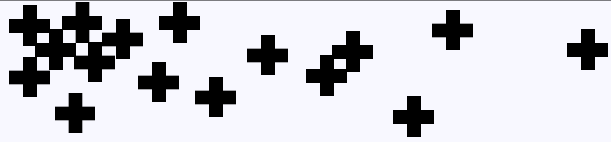
- Giving help to others

Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Individualised learning goals

ePortfolios can document personal goals and record a student's learning path to those goals.
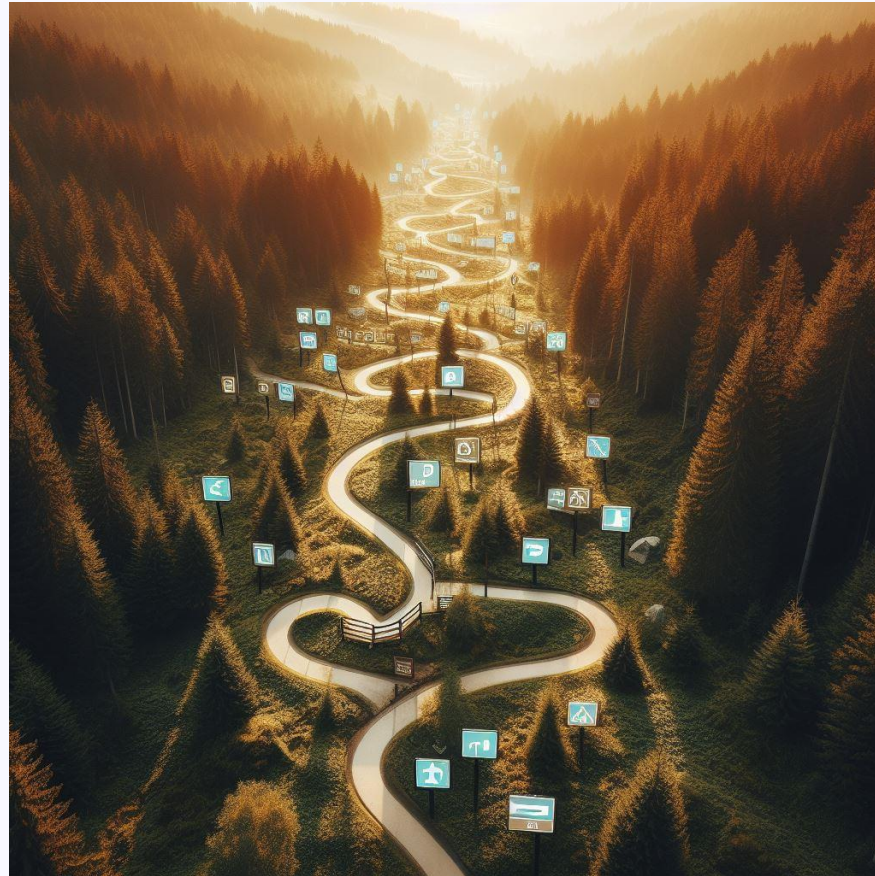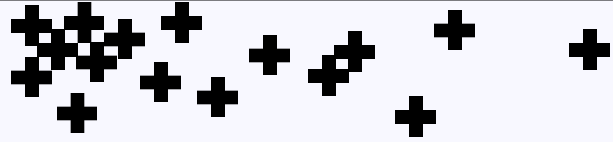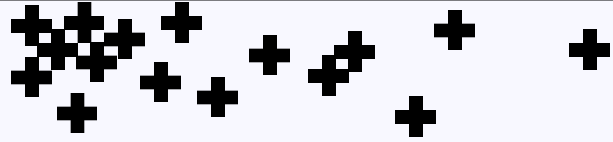
Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Authentic assessment

ePortfolios can support the development and delivery of a wide variety of real-world outputs.
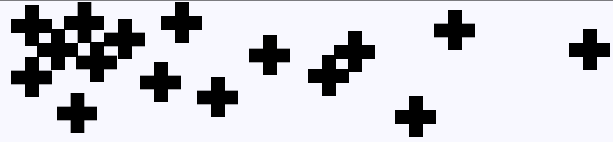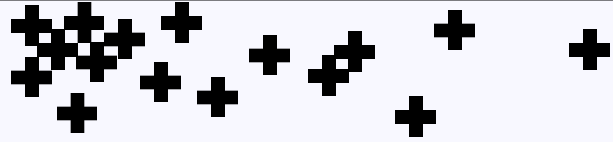
Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Showcasing growth

- ePortfolios can be used to track progress/ compare initial and final artefacts.

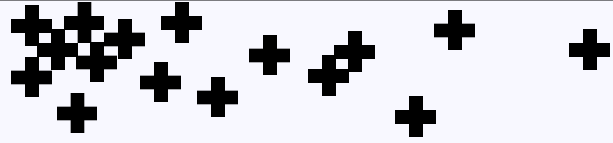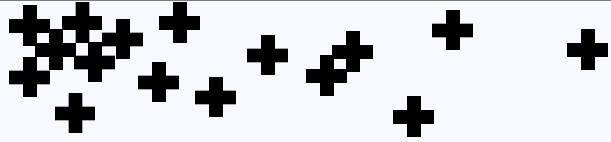- If used summatively, progress can be recognised via a rubric.

Image: Bing Chat Enterprise

Other benefits

Covered to an extent previously but bears repeating...

- Encourages creative expression

- Enhances digital literacy

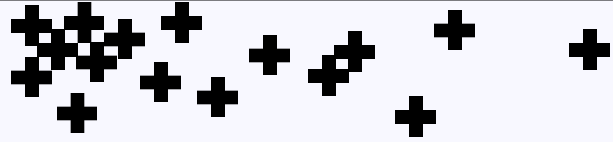- Builds a learning community

- Ensures inclusivity

Image: Bing Chat
Enterprise

Thank you
Tapadh leibh

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