

Genius Hour- Passion Projects

This year we will be participating in Passion Projects or *Genius Hour*. You will get to explore your own passions by investigating new ideas, skills, topics, or ideas that interest YOU! Passion drives what we all love and do. Without passion, the world would not be the way it is today. Passion is the motivation that we all need in order to be successful in life.

When you have chosen your project topic, you need to formulate a driving question. You will be given time in class once your project has been approved, but you will also need to work on it at home. Use books, computer etc. to do your research. At the end of the unit, you will present your learning to the class.

- 1) You must have a driving question for a project approved by us
- 2) Your project must be researched using a range of sources
- 3) You must produce something that you can present and share to an audience.

Genius Hour Guidelines/Tips

TOPIC SELECTION

You must have a driving question to your project... not just a topic. Your question needs to be focused so that it is not too big and broad.

What you should not have:

- Dolphins
- Television
- School uniforms
- Natural disasters
- Clocks

What you should have:

- How do dolphins affect the ecosystem in which they live?
- What can we do to slow down or prevent more damage due to *Global Warming*?
- How are some older and modern televisions designed? Are they that different?
- Do students have better behaviour in schools that have a uniform policy?
- How much do natural disasters affect human lives?
- How does the hand on a clock move?

RESEARCHING

You need to use sources that are trustworthy and use a range of sources... not just one! Make sure you check several different sources to make sure the information you have is reliable!

Types of Research:

- Internet (using reliable sources)

<https://destiny.sd73.bc.ca/cataloging/servlet/presentvisualsearchdisplayform.do?l2m=Library%20Search>

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/>

- Books on the subject (non-fiction)
- Encyclopedia (online is fine)
- Dictionary
- Magazines
- Newspaper
- Talk with parents, teachers, others with information on the subject
- Interview an expert on the subject

Note taking: Write down key ideas and details. Do NOT write your notes in full sentences. Point form is always effective. Write your notes in your HACE notebook or create a Google Doc.

Keep track of your resources for the bibliography.

Books: Author, Title, Publication Year, Publisher

Websites: Title of Article (if any), URL, Date you accessed it

Magazine/Newspaper: Title of Article, Author, Name of magazine

PRESENTATION

Ways you can share your project are endless. Some ways to share are:

- PowerPoint Presentation
- Other media presentations (Prezi, Keynote, ...)
- Video
- Model (with oral explanation)
- Poster Display
- Puppet Show
- Play
- Written Report
- Charts, graphs, etc.

Have another idea? Come see me and we can discuss it!

Things to consider with your presentation:

Cover the Content:

- Answer your question
- Make sure your information is understandable
- Use text and images
- Make it creative?

❖ Include successes and difficulties you had throughout the process.

Present Effectively:

- Speak clearly
- Speak loud
- Use eye contact with audience
- Explain well
- Answer questions

Name _____

My Passion Project Proposal

You need a thoughtful question for your inquiry... It can't be something that you can "google"! Consider what you could do:

o Learn about (like history, or a place, or an animal) o Learn to do (computer skills, play an instrument) o Learn to create (an art project, an app) o Learn to make (a working model of something.. a windmill) o Learn to test (a scientific experiment) o Learn to change (making the world a better place)

For my Genius Hour project I am going to:

This is meaningful to me because:

My driving question is:

You have been approved

You have not been approved because:

Name _____

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