

Hello wonderful GATE parents,

If you are looking for some GATE extension activities, I have assigned several lessons on byrdseed.tv

Our login is: Mrs Randall and our password is: amazing

I will continue to add new assignments that your children can complete to extend their learning beyond the packets that are assigned. Another idea is to download the Duolingo app and have your child learn a new language. This is a free app and it includes several different languages. The following passion project assignment would be a fun extension to your child's learning as well. The details are listed below. Your child could present his/her project during one of our Zoom meetings.

Please contact me via Bloomz or email if you have any questions.

Take care,

Cindi Randall

crandall@carson.k12.nv.us


PASSION PROJECT



Extended Learning for GATE/High Achieving Students

INTRODUCTION:



The search engine giant  company allows its engineers 20% of their time on any project that they want. The idea is very simple. Allow people to work on something that interests them, and then those people will be more productive (hard working and happier)!

GOALS OF PASSION PROJECT:

- To promote, support, and model creativity, innovative thinking, and invention!
- To allow students an opportunity to discover/investigate one of their passions and reflect on learning
- Provide students an opportunity to develop and use skills that are valuable in any learning situation (research, experimentation, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking)

Getting Started...Day 1

1. Brainstorm - Make a list or bubble map/web of topics that interest you. What do you want to know more about? What topic gets you excited? Try to come up with 5-10 different topics at least to get a good start.

2. Select - PICK ONE of the topics on your list for this passion project.
3. Write - Think of a **BIG QUESTION** that you want to know about your topic. Write down your question to be your guide as you work on your project. Look below for examples of small vs. BIG QUESTIONS!

Topic: Spiders

Small Questions:

- How many legs do spiders have?
- What type of spider is this?
- What does the word arachnid mean?

Topic: Paris, France

- How tall is the Eiffel Tower?
- Who built the Eiffel Tower in Paris?
- Why is it called FRENCH fry?
- Is the Notre Dame Cathedral in France?

Big Questions:

- How do spiders' body parts help it survive?
- How can I compare/contrast different species of spiders?
- Why are spiders called Arachnids?
- What is the history of the Eiffel Tower?
- Why and how was the Eiffel Tower built?
- What foods are traditional and popular in France?
- What are famous French landmarks & what are they like?

Working on your project...Day 2 and beyond

1. Research your topic using EPIC books or another book source, search on google or Kiddle, watch online videos on your topic or even a documentary. How will you record your information? Take notes in an organized way (use a Thinking Map, note cards, graphic organizer you find online).
2. Research for as LONG and as MUCH as interests you on this topic. Remember...your BIG QUESTION gets you started and guides you, but your research may lead you to new and exciting places!
3. REPORT OUT - Once you have collected all your research, how will you present what you found out?

See the next page for ideas on ways to show what you know!

IDEAS FOR PRESENTING YOUR LEARNING:

1. Google Slideshow or Powerpoint
2. Written Report
3. Picture Collage or Diagrams with captions
4. Maps
5. Timeline
6. Storyboard
7. Diorama (shows a scene in a shoebox)
8. Demonstration
9. Video (record on your webcam, flipgrid, or youtube)
10. Poster or Display Board (like science fair board)

Tips for presenting your learning:

→Share what you learned in a fun and creative way!

- Enjoy your project, whatever you decide to make should be just as enjoyable for you as what you learned!
- Take time and care to make an interesting and neat project for others to look at!
- Don't forget to put a title, your BIG QUESTION, and your name somewhere in your project!
- HAVE FUN! You picked this topic and this idea, so if you aren't enjoying it, go back to your brainstorming list and try something else!