

7th GRADE PROJECT

DESCRIPTION AND GUIDELINES

YOUR JOB:

Your job is to identify a small, neighborhood or regional problem that connects to a larger issue and then create a proposal for a new solution. The problem must be one that affects people on a national or global level, but you will approach the problem from a personal and local aspect. You will need the background on both the global or national issue and the details of the way it occurs on a local level. In other words, tell us the “story” about the problem.

THINK ABOUT:

What really concerns you about yourself?
What really concerns you about the world?

YOUR QUESTIONS:

What should be done globally and by others about this problem, and what are YOU going to do about this problem?

What is the problem?

Who does it affect?

What are the causes of the problem?

What are previous attempts at solutions? Were there obstacles to those solutions?

What is the historical/social/political/scientific background?

What value or ethic is at the heart of this issue?

What can you as an individual do about this problem?

Your final question should be in a “How can” form. You should name the specific community in your question. It should be something upon which you personally could have some impact.

YOUR DISCOVERY PROCESS/RESEARCH:

You will have to demonstrate an understanding of the historical, scientific, or social context of this issue. During the project time, you will research the problem in many possible ways. You may visit a local school or office; you will research literature online and in the library; you may need to talk to people.

You must use **three different modes of research** and have a **minimum of five sources**.
*If you want to use more than ten sources, you **must** come talk to a teacher.*

Modes:

- Books
- Encyclopedias
- Magazines
- Websites
- Interviews
- On-line databases
- Videos
- Newspapers
- Radio broadcasts
- Responses to emails or letters
- Public documents
- Other resources you can discuss with your mentor

YOUR PRESENTATION:

You will present the problem, your process, and a proposed solution in some way. During your presentation, you will introduce it and answer any questions about your project.

Your presentation will have an oral, visual, and a written component. Examples of each component are:

- **Oral presentation**
 - Dramatic or musical performance
 - Speech/lecture
 - Acting in iMovie (combines visual & oral)
- **Visual presentation**
 - Oral presentation aids (posters, powerpoint, slide show, etc.)
 - Community/public service announcement
 - Graphic comic book (could combine written & visual)
 - Pamphlet
 - Design a mural
- **Written component**
 - Make written contact w/someone outside our community.
 - Journal of the research and process
 - Summarize
 - Pamphlet of ideas and findings
 - Mini-essay summarizing research