

Wednesday 2/3: Passion Project Intro

Objective: SWBAT creatively synthesize their learning about *Into the Wild* and drive their own growth, learning, and community engagement by completing a personal passion project.

Scope

- This is a "passion project." You and your partner will collaborate to choose a topic or issue that interests you. It must be something you care about, for which you want to advocate for change or increased awareness.
- The final goal of this product is to educate, increase awareness, and advocate for change around your issue.

Parameters

- This will count as multiple grades in the gradebook, both formative and summative.
- You may work independently, or in groups of 2.
- Each project has 3 components: healing, learning, and action.
- The project will be due the week before spring break (March 8-12).

Healing (25 pts)

- For this component, you must develop some kind of self-assessment or reflection related to your topic. Many topics you might choose may be heavy or sensitive. It is crucial to attend to your own wellbeing as you move into this work. To heal the world, you start with yourself.
- Over the next few weeks, options will be introduced in class, or you may choose one of your own.
- Options include: breath practice with a particular intention; writing a letter to yourself; creating an altar, etc.

Brainstorm

What kind of healing practices do you already know of?

A: meditation, crystal cleansing, writing, rune casting, reading

What might you want to look up or explore for this project?

A: other forms of healing I haven't heard of

Learning (25 pts)

- For this project, you will spend time conducting research into your chosen topic. You will be the expert in your own learning and teaching.
- You must use a combination of online and personal sources. You must conduct at least one interview and use one non-article source (an image, a song, etc.) You will cite your sources in your final action step.
- As you work through your project, you will keep a regular journal of what you discover and accomplish along the way.

Brainstorm

What two topics interest you most?

A: activism in young people and police brutality

Why are you interested in those topics?

A: All over social media I always see people criticizing young activist women, like they're just trying to spread information what's so wrong about that? It also interests me because I like to think of myself as an activist, and many people have told me its "annoying" or that "nobody cares," and it gets me mad because they are so uneducated and have 0 care about our world, society and just don't take anything seriously.

What kind of non-article sources could you rely on?

A: I could rely on me, my friends, and people I follow on social media platforms since we all essentially go through this.

Action (40 pts) & Presentation (10 pts)

- Your final product must include a community engagement or action piece.
- Again, this can look like a lot of different things: draft a letter or phone call script to send to a specific leader of your community; create an Instagram infographic with resources; record a song or podcast episode to put on SoundCloud; or create a comic strip to publish online.
- Whatever you choose to do, you must actually submit, upload, or publish it in some form to the public.
- You will present your final presentation during the last week of class before spring break.

Brainstorm

Who in your community already knows about or has some influence in this area?

A: friends and students at school

What kind of final project interests you most? Why?

A: maybe an article because I'm bad at public speaking

Copy and paste or list some examples that inspire you.

A: tiktokers I follow

Independent work time: Spend at least 30 minutes conducting preliminary research into your project. You can focus on any of the three steps above. Be sure to keep a list of possible resources by copying and pasting links/images below. During this time, you can also reach out to other people in the class to see if anyone is interested in collaborating on your topic with you.

Check out these sources for inspiration to start:

- <https://xqsuperschool.org/rethinktogether/8-young-activists-you-need-to-hear-from-today/>
- <https://ycdiversity.org/who-and-what-we-fight-for/student-activism/>
- <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/10-ways-youth-can-engage-in-activism>

Possible Resources

Ways to improve your mental health-->

<https://www.mhanational.org/31-tips-boost-your-mental-health>

<https://uhs.umich.edu/tenthings>

Ways to improve diversity and uniqueness in a school environment-->

<https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/diversity-in-the-classroom>

Emotional/mental health-->

<https://familydoctor.org/mental-health-keeping-your-emotional-health/>

Homework: Read and annotate *Into the Wild* Chs. 6-7.

POST-PROJECT REFLECTION: Answer the following questions in at least one complete sentence.

1. Now that it's over, what are my first thoughts about this overall project?
A: I really enjoyed seeing the other students present and I also enjoyed working with my partner about a topic we believe is important, and I feel like we all expressed our point of views of those topics.
2. What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while working on this project? About the problem? About myself? About others?
A: I discovered that my classmates are actually pretty creative and about my topic I discovered how there is actually many childrens who can't spend a day with their parents because of the law.
3. What were some of my most challenging moments, and what made them so hard?
A: One of the most challenging moments for us was finding someone to interview because they never replied so we quickly had to change plans, also it was difficult for me to present because it really gives me anxiety standing Infront of the class.
4. What would I do differently if I were to approach the same project again?
A: I would definety include more slides and put every single thought about or expiriened doing this project. We didn't got to do that this time because we just forgot about it.
5. What were some of my most powerful learning moments, and what made them so powerful?
A: Some powerful learning moments was when we found the links and they include so many details I had no idea about.
6. What is the most important thing I learned personally?

A: I personally learned that the same law is destroying the families instead of protecting them and we somehow don't seem to notice.

7. How will I use what I've learned in the future?

A: By having in mind that there is others who really need help from people who the law cant really do nothing to us.

POST-PROJECT REFLECTION: Answer the following questions in at least one complete sentence.

1. Now that it's over, what are my first thoughts about this overall project?

A: I think it's actually a good project. Getting to choose your own topic made it more fun and it didn't feel so much like school work. I think it's great to see what others are passionate about and what they've done to express that.

2. What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while working on this project? About the problem? About myself? About others?

A: I realized just how far we've come and how much has changed within society - like acceptance and understanding.

3. What were some of my most challenging moments, and what made them so hard?

A: The most challenging moment was actually choosing the topic because I wasn't sure what I was passionate about or wanted to learn more about.

4. What would I do differently if I were to approach the same project again?

A: I would take into consideration how much planning this actually takes and work until I couldn't.

5. What were some of my most powerful learning moments, and what made them so powerful?

A: I think my most powerful learning moment was being able to use all my resources and be able to say what I wanted without doubt.

6. What is the most important thing I learned personally?

A: The most important thing I learned is how much my mom went through and despite it all she's still so strong and still amazing.

7. How will I use what I've learned in the future?

A: I will use this to gain a new perspective and be able to understand others on a more in depth level.

POST-PROJECT REFLECTION: Answer the following questions in at least one complete sentence.

1. Now that it's over, what are my first thoughts about this overall project?
A: My first thoughts about this overall project were that I personally didn't really like it/enjoy it.
2. What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while working on this project?
About the problem? About myself? About others?
A: Some interesting discoveries I made were that there is not a specific organization of people who keep track of animals it is only the people who care who conduct surveys to get data. Also I found out about myself that I can actually do something I tell myself I can't.
3. What were some of my most challenging moments, and what made them so hard?
A: Some of my most challenging moments were the interview and the presentation. I get nervous when I talk to people who have authority, so before the interview I was so nervous. The presentation was terrible I knew what I wanted to say, but when I got up there I got to nervous and blanked out completely forgetting what I was going to say.
4. What would I do differently if I were to approach the same project again?
A: I would try some breathing technics before I present to try and calm my self so I don't go into panic mode.
5. What were some of my most powerful learning moments, and what made them so powerful?
A: One of the most powerful learning moments I had was in the interview I got to learn about more ways to help animals. Another one was in the guided meditation
6. What is the most important thing I learned personally?
A: I learned that I cant handle change yet I need constant change sometimes.
7. How will I use what I've learned in the future?
A: I will try to use my voice and knowledge to help animals and maybe volunteer.

POST-PROJECT REFLECTION: Answer the following questions in at least one complete sentence.

1. Now that it's over, what are my first thoughts about this overall project?
A: I really didn't want to do it but it was worth it, my heart was pounding and I felt my throat get tight but I'm glad I did it.
2. What were some of the most interesting discoveries I made while working on this project?
About the problem? About myself? About others?
A: The different types and how they work over all and knowing ways that we can help and be a lot more prepared to answer questions as thoroughly as I can.
3. What were some of my most challenging moments, and what made them so hard?
A: Finding the materials and trying to find a way to aid myself and have the guts to speak up in the presentation.
4. What would I do differently if I were to approach the same project again?

A: I would try to go a little more in depth and better at explaining everything as well as including more concise information, giving more points of view rather than just one.

5. What were some of my most powerful learning moments, and what made them so powerful?

A: knowing that women can suffer so much yet still have the courage to speak up and do something about it.

6. What is the most important thing I learned personally?

A: I am still learning to do this but trying to see the other parties perspective and being patient as well as perseverant.

7. How will I use what I've learned in the future?

A: If I ever meet someone who is being rude to anyone from any party I will try to my best to see both sides, I also don't like playing judge or detective.