



Cross-Curricular Projects

Valley Catholic Middle School

8TH GRADE

RESEARCH

WRITING

PRODUCT

PRESENTATION

Capstone

Capstone is an intensive, year-end, cross-curricular project. Students explore their interests and narrow their focus to one topic about which they are passionate. They design a project, conduct background research, and interview a professional in the field.

4th Q

3rd Q

Migration Project



Research the historical migration of people and interview people about their migration stories.



Research moving to place that are predominantly Spanish-speaking



Research the history of Catholic Migration to the United States and the various attitudes in the country to that migration.



How climate change impacts people and creates conditions for migration.



Interpret data and statistics.



Write a personal narrative either telling a family story or historical fiction that connects to migration.



Revise their narrative, specifically making sure the details match with historical narratives.



Create a piece of art that represents their feelings and understanding of the topic of migration to and across the United States.



Present their artwork in a formal presentation of how what they created connects to what they learned.



Present their artwork to the larger community during a school art show.

2nd Q

1st Q

Service Learning Project



Research Ethics, Compassion, Catholic Social Teaching and Charitable organizations.



Research regional differences in the U.S. and the role of Government and Economics in community issues.



The role climate change and access to resources play in community issues.



How language can be a barrier to accessing services.



The use of data and statistics.



5 Paragraph essay identifying a specific issue in their community a multi page argumentative essay for ways to address the issue



Revise their essays in their English classes.



Work on technical writing.



Work on technical writing.



Revise and add information about charitable organizations in the region to their infographic.



Create a documentary/podcast that will allow them to reflect on all the work they have done with the project.



Create an infographic providing information about a given region in the United States and the issues specific to that region.



Present their findings about their issue and interview someone who works on addressing the issue.



Present their understanding of the issue and their proposed ways of addressing the issue to community leaders.

7TH GRADE

RESEARCH

WRITING

PRODUCT

PRESENTATION

African Leader Fair



Research with a key figure of African history, from there students develop their own topics based off of their concept maps.



Learn about types of leaders and research influential African leaders in science.



Composing the introduction and conclusion paragraphs of the key figure essay with a focus on MLA citations and final formatting.



Continuing the writing process of their body paragraphs while developing an elevator speech for the SS Fair.



Class presentations to refine their skills, then proceed to the SS fair where both 6th and 7th grade will be interacting.



Present their portraits and research papers on researched influential leaders from Africa.



Create a visual aid product for their presentation.



Create portraits of influential leaders from Africa.

4th Q

3rd Q

STEM Business Project



Research pre-existing companies to learn business models.



Research different products and countries of origin they wish to "stock" in their bodegas.



Discussing the Silk Road and exchange/trade.



Supports the cost analysis portion of the project.



Write business proposals, and cover letters.



Write a short explanation of the products they "stock" in their bodegas in the Spanish language.



Focusing on business themed research writing as well as technical writing by refining resumes for the business project.



Present their business idea to the whole class.



Present their bodega and advertise their chosen products to other students.



Present and discuss trading along the silk road and economics.



Have a business website and physical or 3-D version of their business product.



Create a menu for their bodega with the products they are selling, their prices, and the country of origin and Spanish explanation.

2nd Q

1st Q

Future City



Learn how to conduct research based on the current Future City theme



Learn how faith is integrated into communities, including churches, nonprofits and cemeteries.



Examine the development of cities across the Eastern Hemisphere conducting research of certain cities for inspiration.



Investigate environmental issues that arise within cities, industry, and agriculture.



Continue building writing skills, practicing the writing process, citing textual evidence, and MLA format.



Focus on writing their Future City essays in MLA format.



Focus will be on creating visual aids, presentation skills and following a rubric.



Present their Future City boards in a group presentation.



Focus on building a city model using 70% recycled materials.



Create a map of the silk road as a product.



Learn and practice scale factor.



Create a brochure examining a specific environmental concern and what we can do as individuals to address the problem.

6TH GRADE

RESEARCH

WRITING

PRODUCT

PRESENTATION

Greek and Roman Fair



Select and research specific topics about ancient Greece or Rome



Create research rough draft for Greek & Roman Fair topic



Create a 3D model (with help from Art with scale) / website



Students will present their research and model with the class and in a fair-like environment with the school

4th Q

3rd Q

Mars Project



Research challenges to human colonization of Mars.



"Challenges to Human Colonization of Mars" research essay with works cited page



Showing solution to problems settling Mars presents, & how to improve life on Mars.



Presentation on explaining the process and solution teams designed.

2nd Q

1st Q

Rainforest Deforestation



Research issues surrounding deforestation: farming, ranching, logging and mining.



Narrative writing assignment: narrative written from POV of different humans impacting the rainforest



Create a solution using visual/working prototype, infographic, and slides / Layers of the Rainforest Diorama



Practice in small groups in Study Skills and evaluate each other before final presentations in SS and STEM

Engineering Through History



Ancient civilizations' culture/tools / evolution of engineering



Formatting citations in their product



Slideshow -a chosen product from S. American ancient civilizations



Presentation skills practice



English



STEM



Social Study



Math



Science



Elective



Religion



Spanish



Health

R

W

P

PR