

What is the Essential Question driving this project?

- **Common Intellectual Mission**
 - a. What content will students learn in this project?

 - b. What type of original research will students conduct?

 - c. How will the products allow students to demonstrate learning?

- **Adult-World Connection**
 - a. What is the real world application for this project? (Why is this work important?)

 - b. Who is the audience for this project?

 - c. How will you connect adults (and professionals) from the outside of school to this project?

 - d. How will work be displayed publicly?

- **Personalization**
 - a. How will you incorporate “student choice” into this project?

 - b. How will you challenge strong students?

 - c. How will you support struggling students?

 - d. How will you support IEP & ELL students?

 - e. How will you assess and evaluate each student’s effort and work?

Your Essential Question:

- Essential question should be open-ended and provocative
- Begin with the end in mind!
- Avoid questions that start with “What...?”
- Instead use “How...?”

Content:

- Don’t “dumb down” the task (You might restrict the range of learning that could emerge!)
- Be wary of dividing student labor: structure group work so that ALL students learn common core material.
- Let the content drive the activity, not vice versa.

Rubric Tips:

- Allow parents to have access ahead of time
- Allow students to have a role in developing the rubric/s?
- Give rubrics to students BEFORE the project starts

Personalization

- Do the students define/ help define the products/ activities?

Watch Out!

- Beware of extending due dates! (You will only get better, more complete work from the students who would have finished on time anyway!)
- Avoid group grades!
- Assess LEARNING not just responsibility (Pretty poster board ≠ learning)