

2. Passion projects



2. Passion Projects

- Allowing students to choose what they study for a limited amount of time
- Something they care about, something that interests them
- Not covered in detail in the spec.
- Teach the class...

2. Passion Projects - Chemistry

Why are chemicals banned in warfare?

The use of chemicals in warfare is banned by the chemical warfare committee as they don't target individuals and instead kill anyone if the dose is high enough including civilians however most militaries properly gear up their troops to defend against chemicals which only leaves civilians vulnerable and the targeting of civilians is illegal in war.



What's in a toothpaste ?



Ingredients:

- Aqua
- Glycerin
- Hydrated Silica
- PVM/MA Copolymer
- Sodium Lauryl Sulfate
- Cellulose Gum
 - Aroma
- Sodium Hydroxide
- Carrageenan
- Sodium Fluoride
 - Triclosan
- Sodium Saccharin
 - Limonene
 - CI 77891

Topics included: Bumble bees, Plastics in oceans, Toothpaste, TNT, Painkillers, LSD and Glow sticks.

- Had to have a link to chemistry, and include some chemical equations.
- Students were given a checklist of requirements.

2. Passion Projects - Chemistry



CHEMISTRY PROJECT Checklist

Title:

Name:

	5 – Stellar	4 – Well Done	3 – Good	2 – Moderate	1 – Limited
Research Problem or Question	Statement / Question is new, meaningful research	Statement / Question is	Statement / Question is	Statement / Question is	Statement / Question is not clear. Search is unclear.
Background Research	Research is specific, examples clearly explained, chemistry concepts are				No specifics and No ideas are student doesn't explain: history, pros and cons.
Data Collection If applicable	Adequate trials/sample size. Appropriate charts/graphs used.				Insufficient trials/sample size. No photos/charts/play data.
Analysis	Conclusion supported by the data. Error has been considered. Modifications made for hypothesis or rejection. Logical reasoning was used. Learning could be made.				Conclusion not supported. No sources of information considered. Hypothesis not attempted. Hypothesis not supported or rejected. Conclusion was not made.
PowerPoint Presentation if applicable	PowerPoint is complete and easy to make. Graphics are used in appropriate manner	good manner.	used in a good manner.		PowerPoint is unclear, and uses graphics are not

CHEMISTRY PROJECT Checklist

Please write the score in the relevant box for each students 5- Stellar, 4 – Well done, 3- Good, 2 – Moderate, 1 - Limited

Student name						
Project title						
Research Problem or Question						
Background Research						
Data Collection If applicable						
Analysis						
PowerPoint Presentation						
Poster presentation						
Presentation						
Difficulty/ Creativity						
Works Cited						
Total score						
Comments – WWW, EBI						

This has been so successful that it is now a part of our SOW.

2. Passion Project in English Language

1. Year 12 students chose a dialect and investigated the vocabulary, lexis and phonography
2. Many chose based on family dialects and popular culture
3. Students given 3 weeks to prepare a presentation which was peer assessed with set criteria - had to speak in the dialect for the class
4. Students quite anxious, but put into pairs to prepare - some very funny moments

“I enjoyed the task, it gave me freedom to research a particular topic I was interested in and allowed me to confidently present. I chose the Irish accent as I have lots of family from Ireland; I was genuinely interested in it.”

2. Passion Projects - Economics

Students had 5-6 lessons and independent study time to prepare either a 5 minute presentation or video

1. Emma wanted to combine economics and psychology after seeing a speaker who came into class talk about behavioural economics
2. Beau has monetary aspirations and is already planning how he can minimise how much tax he will pay
3. Daniel was perturbed by the assumption in economics that agents always act in a self-interested way and sought to prove that altruism exists

All came up with their topic ideas within 5 minutes



Emma Kelly: Nudge theory



Beau Van Den Berg: Why do we pay so much tax?



Daniel Creutzfelt: Does altruism exist?