EDTECH Moodle

My Courses ▼ Forums ▼ Student Advising ▼ EDTECH Library MyBoisestate EDTECH Website



- Dashboard
- Site pages
- Current course
 - ▼ EDTECH 542-4202 (SP17) Dr. Parlin
 - Participants
 - Badges
 - General
 - Topic 1

 - Topic 2
 - ▼ Topic 3
 - Projects & Week 3 & 4: Explore Sample Projects & Deve...
 - Page 15 To Do (Module 3)
 - Project Search Discussion Forum
 - PBL Group Project Option
 - Develop a Project Idea
 - Project: School Garden
 - ▶ Topic 4
 - ▶ Topic 5
- Mv courses

ADMINISTRATION

- 6

- Forum administration
- Optional subscription
- Subscribe to this forum
- Unsubscribe from this discussion
- Course administration

Project: School Garden

Subscribed

Dougal- Family History ▶ ◄ PBL Project Website

Display replies in nested form



Project: School Garden

by Alyssa Moulin - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 9:28 AM

Courtney Poncia and I work at the same school in Boise, Idaho, We will be working on our project together. Our school recently wrote a grant to buy all of the materials for a school garden, We currently have around 35 boxes available for planting. This year our school is working towards each classroom adopting a bed that they can take care of through the growing process. Our school garden has the ability to reach many students and cover multiple standards in each grade level. Part of the project will include students creating a self watering bucket for green beans. We want to incorporate technology with the use of time lapse videos, online recording sheets, and students creating presentations using a variety of online tools that can be shared with the community. Our garden already works with the community. The families are welcome to utilize any food that the school does not use, then we also share it with the community for people in need. This will be a great project for any of the teachers at our school to modify and use in their own classrooms for the different plants. The link to our project page can be found here, as well as this link to a website we want to use for support and ideas.

Permalink | Reply



Re: Project: School Garden

by Amy Spencer - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 9:55 AM

What is the primary use for the products from the garden? I know that you state families and the community can use what is left over, but what does the school use it for prior to those

I wonder about your timeline listing of 3 weeks. Is the entire garden going to be planted, grown, and harvested in that period? Or is that time stating "around 15 days of class" so that you will continuously revisit the garden topic with videos and measurements on and off with other topics in between?

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Re: Project: School Garden

by Alyssa Moulin - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 2:32 PM

Our school uses the produce from the garden in many different ways. One of our second grade classes makes "stone soup" at the beginning of the year while reading the story of stone soup and talking about creating a positive classroom environment. Then they use some of the produce from the garden to create their own soup. I know our Special Education department also utilizes much of the produce in life lessons with their students. They use the produce to cook on a regular basis. We also have health teachers at our school that use it.

The 3 week timeline is more for the activity where students each grow their own self-watering green bean bucket. The idea is that they will take that project and the results to apply to our garden on more of a long term basis.

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Re: Project: School Garden

by Karl Werner - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 1:33 PM

Thank you for sharing your gardening project. Since it is already going it will be interesting to see a PBL that has had time to mature. In fact, you mentioned that the community is already invovived as well as other classes. I was looking through your site and I noticed that in the introduction posted here you mentioned creating a self watering bucket for green beans. On your site your driving question is "What is the difference between light and dark when growing green beans?" I'm a bit confused with how these two ideas coexist in the PBL however I'm sure you know and look forward to what you produce In the future (2) (Puns....haha)...

Karl

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Re: Thompson- Power through Poetry

by Kaitlin Morgan - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 11:36 AM

Hi Sarah,

I like your project so far, especially that students will get to present their product to the community. Do you think you could make the audience even bigger by using Periscope, Facebook Live, or Twitter live? That way they can reach a more global audience and any loved ones who are not able to attend?

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Re: Thompson- Power through Poetry

by Sarah Thompson - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 11:42 AM

That is a GREAT idea, Kaitlin! Thank you for sharing! I think we could definitely create a Google Hangout or something similar- even if people cannot video in, they could watch it later! I love that!

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Re: Thompson- Power through Poetry

by Karl Werner - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 3:27 PM

Sarah,

This sounds like a really interesting idea for a PBL. I like the fact that students get explore history. I was wondering if you are going to narrow the historical field a bit for them or is it anyone in history that has overcome adversity?

Believe it or not I have taught creative writing and a poetry course. I found that students needed a lot of practice reading poetry and some just were not comfortable infront of an audience. Perhaps it would be possible for some students to read their poetry aloud and some to put together a video of them speaking over slides or pictures. This type of work might help those that do not feel comfortable infront of a huge crowd. If this doesn't seem like something you want to do you may consider having students give smaller performances in front of the class and then a medium audience leading up to the final reading. It should help with the nerves. Hope this helps.

Best of luck on the PBL...

Karl

Maximum rating: -

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Thanks again for your input!



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Re: 3-5 Helping Shelter Animals Thrive

by Karl Werner - Saturday, February 4, 2017, 1:43 PM

Hi Patty,

Web design is frustrating. If you want your blog and an area to hold the content for your coursework I would suggest Wordpress. It might be too late to do anything different now but I find it to be quite friendly (especially if you have some familiarity with CSS and HTML)...

Anyhow, It sounds like this is a PBL that is already in progress and should have some great material to go with it. I was wondering how the students keep the animals in mind throughout the project. I have found that charities and their missions can easily be forgotten by students who are raising money unless what they are doing is directly related to the charitable goals. For example you mentioned selling ebooks and I was wondering if the students would be creating works based on animals or in some way connected to them.

Forgive me if this information is on your site already. I am having some difficulty accessing it although I did try. Don't worry, its me not you... Anyhow, I look forward to seeing where your project goes.

Best: Karl

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Re: 3-5 Helping Shelter Animals Thrive

by Patty McDonald - Sunday, February 5, 2017, 12:03 PM

Hi Karl- Thank you for the suggestion. I had a Wordpress and am having difficulty with accessing it due to not having any of the information to prove I am me. Very frustrating! I think I am going to stick with Google Site this time around and play around with Wix. I like the more contemporary designs on Wix. I will eventually transfer to the WIX site or link the two together.

All of the work the students will create will be based on the animals. The students will gain information from a field trip as well as volunteer visits. The students can take pictures, videos, bring their sketchpad...They will have choice and voice in what they write and how they write it. As well as what art they create. For example- a student could write a story from a pup's perspective with a drawing of him and his new human, a journal entry from a volunteer with a painting of an animal that they wound up adopting, a creative cage advertisement with a collage of pics to show the animal's personality.

Just a few ideas I thought of, but the kids will have so many more!!!

No worries- the site is new and the project is just coming together.

By the end of the semester, it should all be there!

