

## **PASSION PROJECTS**

### **Topic Centered Learning**

#### **What is a PASSION PROJECT?**

Passion projects encourage students to deepen their understanding in an area of a student's own interest. They choose the topic and explore it.

#### **What is the difference between inquiry based projects and passion projects?**

Passion projects are centered around a topic. Inquiry projects are centered around a question. Both explore information and questions during the learning process. Inquiry based projects tend to engage a deeper level of thinking.

#### **Who can do this type of project?**

Students from kindergarten through grade 12, of all abilities, are motivated and able to be successful with these types of projects. Printing, drawings, and output are all based on ability. Everyone can find a great way to show what they know.

#### **What skills is my child learning?**

Your child will be reading, writing, creating, researching, being artistic, and using many thinking skills.

#### **What types of topics can we choose from?**

**PROJECT IDEAS:** Rainbows, the Titanic, India, Cars, Logging, Teeth, a different country, Chickens, Teeth, Hockey, Candy, Graffiti Art, Beethoven, Space, Lego, Eyes, Residential Schools, Local Indigenous Culture, Egypt, Rocks and Minerals, Soccer, Poisonous Snakes, Dinosaurs, Rockets, Karate.... ENDLESS options!

## How can my child show his / her learning?

Students can show what they know in many different formats:

- **Create posters**
- **Create booklets (digital or paper)**
- **Create a website**
- **Create a presentation (PowerPoint or other)**
- **Build models**
- **Other ideas also welcome**
- **Be sure to SHARE**

## HOW TO DO A PASSION PROJECT:

**STEP ONE: Identify** the area of interest

**STEP TWO: Explore** books and websites around that area of interest.

**STEP THREE:** Generate **questions** to help guide the project.

- Good questions go provoke higher level thinking
- Write down your curiosities and questions

**STEP FOUR: Choose** which questions about your topic that you are going to explore. Choosing up to 5 questions (sub-topics) will create a thorough project. However, be flexible based on the depth of the questions, your available time, and the abilities of your child.

**STEP FIVE: Explore** one question at a time. Gather information in books and online.

**STEP SIX: Record** the information what has been learned about the question. Use images and words to share the learning.

**STEP SEVEN: Repeat**

**STEP EIGHT:** Once completed, **share with pride!**

## PASSION PROJECT Example:

### MY PROJECT TOPIC:

#### GUINEA PIGS

### My GUIDING QUESTIONS:

What does a guinea pig need to have a healthy habitat?

What are the benefits and challenges of having a guinea pig?

What is the life cycle of a guinea pig?

How can I train my guinea pig?

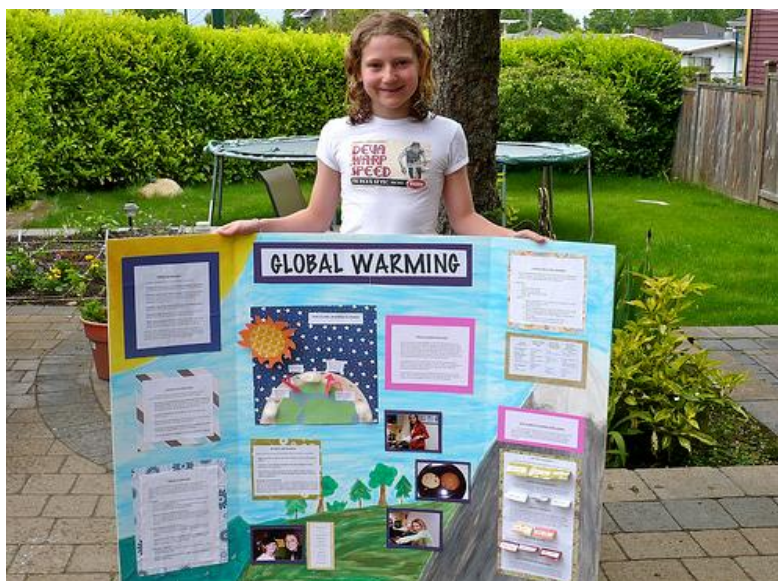
Where do guinea pigs live in the wild?

**LEARN:** Read books, watch videos, and visit websites about guinea pigs.

**CREATE:** Using pictures and words, create a poster, PowerPoint or booklet that outlines each of the questions and the answers.

**SHARE:** Share my project with others and teach them all about my topic.

### Example of a different finished passion project on “Global Warming”:



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