Keystone Project

Objective:

Students will demonstrate their understanding of the scientific theory behind contemporary environmental issues by teaching a subject to their peers.

Requirements:

Students will document their learning in the following ways:

A KWL Chart showing a progression of understanding 10pts

A proposal outlining how the group will approach their subject 10pts

A documented research summary 20pts

A presentation informing peers about the issue..30pts

An assessment appropriate to peers 10pts

Audio/visual components to aid the class' understanding...........................10 pts

....**Total = 80pts**

ALSO in this unit:

-Throughout the project individual stages will be additionally graded as assignments (~**40**pts)

-There will be several quizzes measuring comprehension and retention (~**80**pts)

Timeline:

You will have to manage your time wisely. There is little room for error.

*I – Proposal & Intro Research
*P - Personal Research II
*Pr - Presentations
*M – Make-ups
*Q – Current Events Quiz
*KWL – final draft due

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
7	8	9	10	11 *I	12	13
14	15 *P	16	17 *R	18	19	20
21 *Pr	22 *Pr	23 *Pr	24 *Pr	25 Test	26	27
28 *M	29 *KWL	30	31 FINAL			

Group Name: _____ **Subject:** _____

Members _____

_____

The Specifics

Introduction & Quizzes

Φ Step #1- participate in building a list of current environmental science issues

Φ Each issue will be considered for no more than 2 minutes. (Me talking, you asking questions)

Φ Quiz will come immediately after presentations

KWL.................clear, complete, ...10pts (Rubric below)

Φ This is will help you track your learning (tangible knowledge → the whole reason you're in school!)

Φ Structure: Table

   Column 1 – Current events subject (by row)

   Column 2 – What you know (no notes, just your brains)

   ....Every subject should have some entry

   Column 3 – What you would like to know

   ....Really. If you only care about one thing that's fine.

   Column 4 – What you learned. An entry for each.

Personal Research Assignments.............. (assignment grades)

Φ In order of descending CE quiz scores you'll choose your issue/group.

Φ Each group will assign its members an individual research assignment (homework- 5 pts).

Φ Hand in Group sheet. (3pts)

Proposal ....complete, insightful....................10pts (Rubric below)

Φ This is a short document outlining how your group plans to present your subject.

Φ Present this proposal to me for discussion (as a group).

Presentation..20pts (Rubric below)

      Individual ....*participation, knowledge*...............................10pts

      Group performance...................*Fluid, timely (3-4 minutes per person)*...........5pts

      Q & A...*content knowledge*..5pts

Research Paper.......................................20pts (Rubric below)

Φ This should be a research paper based (directly) on your presentation

Φ The body of the paper should be 1.5 pages (per group-member), 1.5-space, 11pt Times New Roman

Φ All facts should clearly cite relevant research in MLA-style formatting.

Participation..(Class work grade)

Φ (Percent time spent working) x 10pts = score

Assessment ....Complete, Usable ....10pts (Rubric below)

Φ This may be in the form of a quiz, worksheet or other interactive teaching tool

Φ At least 10 facts should be covered

A/V component............Original, Helpful...........10 pts

Φ You may use any medium you choose. (Poweroint is *NOT* original)

General Presentation Guide

Basic Strategy:

1. **Know your medium**. The internet has a lot of information, if you want to use it must know how to tell good sites and resources from bad ones. Textbooks are usually very accurate, but limited in scope (politically correct, etc). Magazines will have interesting angles, but usually little information.

2. **Introduce yourself**. Gain a basic understanding of the subject at hand. A teacher's 10-minute presentation, or an online video could provide the right level of depth.

3. **Decide what to present**. The specifics of the material presented depend entirely on your subject. The amount of information available on any one subject today is enormous. Deciding what material needs to be presented is the first thing you must research.*

4. **Decide how to present**. Everybody in the group should contribute equally to the final product. Knowing what form you'll use may affect other responsibilities (if you're making a video, whoever does the producing will need a lot of time. On the other hand, if you're using *Power Point* I don't expect any one person to spend more than 10 or 15 minutes on it.

5. **Break-up the work**. Keep it fair, but be logical. If the least responsible person offers to do the whole thing, have a back-up plan.

6. **Monitor your group**. There is not much time. Be sure things are getting done, and if they're not, figure it out. Your grade is on the line. Your superiors may forgive a poor performance because it was someone else's fault, but they may not.

7. **Be in contact**. With the number tools available to communicate with each other it is unacceptable to not have your groups presentation on the day it is due.**

*This is the "pitch." Details to follow.
** Resources listed below.

The Pitch:

How is your group going to frame the issue? Perspective can be non-biased or advocate a position. Content should include the following:

- Δ **Background** (how did the situation arise)
- Δ **Vocabulary** (what language pertains to the subject)
- Δ **Factors** (what competing issues make the situation complex)
- Δ **Players** (who plays a role in the decision)
- Δ **Possible action** (individual and government changes)
- Δ **Best case scenario** (in your opinion what should happen)
- Δ **Prediction** (in your opinion what really will happen)

Resources