

Gifted and Talented Lesson Plan Competition

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County: Monongalia County

Unit Lesson Plan – Overview: 20-Time Project (based on Google’s formula for innovation – Google allows its employees to work on a project of their choice for up to 20% of their work day/week).

Kevin Brookhouser, M.Ed. wrote the book, “The 20Time Project” to teach educators how to use the same ideas in the class. Another valuable resource: www.20time.org. Also, www.20timeineducation.com .

Students will learn to access and use information in ways that are meaningful to them, to solve real-world problems through self-led projects, to present a formal proposal considering the audience, create and maintain a blog tracking their project’s development, and complete a final presentation in the style of a TED talk.

Day/Week One: Discuss project (handout included) and brainstorm possible projects. Research ideas further to determine project choice. I have allowed students to work alone or with partners, and even one group that plans to create a school newspaper. However, they are each required to do their own blog, proposal, and TED talk. Introduce blog and questions to be addressed. Introduce Elevator Pitch and TED talk but spend time later in the year addressing these further.

Day/Week Two: Set up class blog to share ideas. Each student is required to blog for themselves plus respond to two other projects each week. This has been fun to read and hear others suggestions and encouragement!

Month One: Proposal is due, signed by parent and student (handout included).

(This is as far as I have reached with my students, but students are excited, working hard, and off to a great start! Some of the projects my students are currently working on include writing a novelette and trying to get it published, starting a service club to meet once a month, working with the local homeless shelter to brighten lives, school newspaper, donations of military supplies, putting up free small libraries around town, becoming a vegetarian for a year and trying new recipes and blogging experiences, fixing up an old car project, creating a portable electric outlet, etc.)