

Mr. Curtis and Ms. DuThinh
6th Grade Math/Science and Humanities
Fall 2017

Faces of Resilience!

A Project Investigating Cancer



Project Overview

About 1 out of every 2 people in America have been directly affected by cancer. Do you know someone who has been impacted by this disease? Chances are you do. Cancer is a multifaceted disease that can affect people regardless of ethnicity, gender, or age. There are many different types of cancer. Some are more dangerous than others; some are more preventative than others. For this cross-curricular project we are going to look at all aspects of cancer. In math/science, we will explore the biology of living systems and scientifically understand why certain cancers form. In humanities, we will interview community members to learn about their experiences with cancer. Students will take these learned experiences and bring them to life through narrative writing and artwork production.

Project Essential Questions

What happens when someone has cancer?

- Why do some cells keep multiplying while others do not?
- Why is cancer such a difficult disease to treat?
- What are the social/emotional impacts of cancer to patients, their families, and the community?

How can we encourage and inform community members?

Project Objectives

- Students will have a deeper understanding of cancer as a disease, at the cellular level and understand how cancer can spread.
 - Students will understand the structure and function of a cell
 - Students will understand that cells can function independently and with other cells.
 - Students will understand that cells contain DNA and codes genetic information.
- Develop and use a model to describe how structural changes to genes (mutations) affect the structure and function of the organism.
- Students will learn and develop interviewing skills in order to deeply understand how cancer has impacted their community.
- Students will have a deeper understanding of the impact that cancer has on people, both physically and emotionally, and how to provide information and encouragement to a community.

NGSS Performance Expectations

MS-LS1-1 - Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.

MS-LS1-2 - Develop and use a model to describe the function of a cell as a whole and ways parts of cells contribute to the function.

MS-LS1-3 - Use argument supported by evidence for how the body is a system of interacting subsystems composed of groups of cells.

Humanities Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.1

Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Final Product/Exhibition

- Book
 - Interview/Narrative pieces
 - Profile Art of Interviewee
 - Scientific explanation of interviewee's type of cancer w/student illustrations
- Podcast or Mini Documentary to submit to StoryCorps

Exhibition

Exhibition will be on January 12th.

Location: TBA