

WHAT IS A PROJECT?

- An extended inquiry into different aspects of real-world topics
- A supplementary, long-term educational assignment necessitating personal initiative, undertaken by an individual student or a group of students
- An extensive task undertaken by a student or group of students to apply, illustrate, or supplement classroom lessons

Why to use a project-based learning? Essential for students to develop

- Collaboration
- Language / New Technology skills and...
- Life skills
- Students learn how to become autonomous / responsible
- A cross-curricular / cross-cultural activity

Language Skills

<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Reading■ Listening■ Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Writing■ Mediation
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Life Skills

(Projects encourage students...)

- Co-operation, Tolerance, Empathy
- Do research (more eagerly, in depth)
- Solve problems
- Evaluate information
- Interested in their work result and thus... Make decisions

Kinds of Projects

- Individual Projects
- Pair Projects
- Group Projects (students in groups or the whole class)

Benefiting from a project

- Practise themselves to ask questions
- Put forward and discuss ideas
- Make predictions
- Make plans
- Collect and analyze relevant information
- Take initiatives
- Come to conclusions

Some more benefits

- Communicate and work with others
- Be engaged with an activity over a specific, and usually, a long period of time
- Examine a subject in-depth and get global information/knowledge
- Their findings can be used as additional, to their course books, resource of knowledge
- Gain self-confidence, feeling of accomplishment
- Students learn how to seek/discover knowledge

Factors a project depends on

- School/language level
- Class/age
- Interests
- Specific aims to achieve during the classroom process

Project topics

- Students have a previous knowledge on the topic (through given texts – course books)
- Avoid topics with little interest or background knowledge
- Student master the necessary vocabulary
- Talk with the students about the topic before assigning a project

The teacher should give ...

- Adequate support/solve problems/meet groups regularly
- Necessary information on
 - material, where to find (books – the net)
 - process of the activity (what to do)
- Advice on individual/group work
- Final presentation of their work

Organizing a Project 1 - Preparation

- Discuss some details at the beginning of the school year
- Why to do a project
- Discuss when to start / finish it
- The name of the students to take part
- What participants have to do/prepare

Organizing a Project 2 – First steps

- Choose the type (poster – magazine – newspaper – leaflet – booklet -wall presentation)
- Choose the topic
- Group formation (3-5 students / group synthesis)
- Determine what each group/student should do

Students with/without their teacher's help express opinions / preferences – put forward arguments – state aims - plan – take initiatives – analyze data / information - make final decisions

Organizing a Project 3 - Research

- Collect the information
- Analyze the information
- Decide on the material to keep
- Agree on how it will appear in the project

Organizing a Project 4 - Editing

- Share the whole work with each other
- Decide on the final form of their work
- A group work on:
 1. Contents page
 2. Cover
 3. Illustration
 4. Computer typing – Hand Writing

Organizing a Project 5 - Presentation

- Where to present the project
- Who to present the project to
- Each group present their work (usually a person)
- Project distribution

Organizing a Project 6 –

Evaluation / Self-evaluation

- What is it like working with others?
- Feelings when you collect data / information?
- Traditional vs. project-based learning (advantages - disadvantages).
- Feelings when their work is over.

- What would they avoid doing or try to improve next time in another project?

Generally a Project

- aims at the achievement of a specific result / product
- can be accomplished if certain aims have been stated beforehand
- is the result of specific activities
- has a temporary character
- aims at “building” an autonomous learner who likes co-operation