Learning Cycle: Dream Green

How might we use our creativity to design a dream treehouse/playground/house that is environmentally friendly?

Project Overview

This learning cycle we will learn about how to design a dream home structure using environmentally-friendly concepts. We will strive to think about how we might use our creativity to design a dream treehouse, playground or house that is environmentally friendly. We will kick-off the learning cycle by being inspired by the challenge in a Live Kick-Off Lesson. Throughout the 2 weeks we will learn about and experience the design process—from analyzing models, to brainstorming and creating a vision board, designing and drafting plans, and finally sharing our work in a virtual Open House in the Live Celebration of Learning at the end of the 2 week learning cycle.

The following final products will be created by each grade band:

Grades K-1: Blueprint design concept, and print advertisement for a dream, green treehouse or playground (made of recycled materials).

Grades 2-4: Blueprint floorplan for a tiny house that includes solar power, and a Zillow advertisement for listing their home.

Grades 5-8: Blueprint floorplan for a home remodel that includes renewable energy sources, and a trailer for the show “fixer-upper” to showcase student design.

21st Century Skills we are working on in this unit

- **Agency:**
  - I work purposefully toward learning objectives.
  - I demonstrate mastery of core knowledge, skills, and dispositions.

- **Collaboration:**
  - I can be relied upon.

- **Real World Problem Solving:**
  - I consistently reflect throughout the learning process.

**Check the “Goals” tab in the Altitude Learning Platform to see progress towards and feedback on the 21st Century Skills in focus and all student work in this learning cycle.

If you have any questions, please email support@altitudelearning.com
How a Learning Cycle Works at Altitude Learning @Home

At the beginning and end of each week during the learning cycle we will have live meetings (sign up using the calendly link in your email). In these sessions we will connect as a community, learn new lessons, play games, and celebrate each other’s work. During the week, students will complete “cards” in the Altitude Learning Platform, where they will receive feedback from their educator and can ask for help through comments. Each of the “cards” provides a learning experience that includes steps and resources for the student. There is a card for each day of the week, but students can work ahead of schedule as well.

In general, each card should take approximately 30-60 minutes to complete, but students can complete a step, take a break, and return to the card to continue with the next step. Please encourage your child to review the feedback daily from their educator and continue their work! You can also check the Goals tab of your account to see educator feedback for each week.

A reminder that learning is messy!!

The cards within these mini-projects are flexible (meaning there is no one “right answer” and there are a variety of options for them to explore) and set up so that students can work independently, although younger aged students will likely need parent support and participation. Your child may need help over the course of the learning cycle with technological support (accessing videos and websites) and taking videos or pictures.

However, if your child needs additional assistance, you can do any of the following, which will help develop their agency:

- Ask them if they have looked in three places before they asked you for help (we call this the “see three before me” rule!).
- Comment directly in a card in the Altitude Learning Platform if they need their teacher’s help.
- Come to the Live Sessions with questions to ask other students and their teacher.

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Altitude Learning @Home’s Learner-Centered Focus

When we start with learners, we start from a place of possibility.

At Altitude Learning, we’re committed to meeting all learners where they are and engaging them in meaningful, authentic learning experiences. In a world that’s changing faster than ever, we believe that students can and should develop the agency to drive their own learning for life.

The world demands individuals who’ve honed skills such as complex problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, and emotional intelligence. Traditional schools focus on covering academic content and standards, so Altitude Learning @Home is the ideal supplement to build critical 21st century skills. We are rethinking why, what, and how we learn, so students thrive in the information economy of tomorrow—not yesterday.

Learner Outcomes

COLLABORATION
- I build connections with my community.
- I can be relied upon.
- I work well with others.

AGENCY
- I can deeply engage in areas that interest me.
- I can set goals and work toward them.
- I have the skills to persist through challenges and believe in my ability to grow.
- I demonstrate mastery of core knowledge, skills, and dispositions.

REAL-WORLD PROBLEM-SOLVING
- I am interested in the world around me.
- I can apply my skills and knowledge to solve real problems.
- I find meaningful ways to contribute to the world.
- I consistently reflect throughout the learning process.

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