

Real World Projects That Impact Our Lives

Course: Art I (Honors)

Instructor: Mr. Gibbons

Project Overview:

Students disassembled computers and electronics that were going to be discarded, recycling them into props for an imaginary Sci-Fi or SteamPunk movie. We learned how to use tools safely, how to engineer components together, and make connections to give the illusion of function. Students had to complete a written component to name their devise in Latin and explain the form and functions of their mechanism. Some exceeded expectations with a bit of a script or story of their devise being used.

Instructor Reflection:

"Student engagement was phenomenal. They were excited to come to class and destroy electronics, see the guts inside, and use their imaginations to engineer a sci-fi/steampunk prop for an imaginary movie. They were even excited to do the writing to explain how their mechanism might work, building a kind of back-story and in turn honing their literacy skills. I would encourage students to bring in more items from home to recycle. I think they will be more open to using their imaginations, and problem solving skills."

Student Reflections:

"Instead of skipping steps, I would make my structure more stable by adding to the foundation. I had to restart my project from the beginning, which cost me time, so I believe doing all of this beforehand would have resulted in a more complete project."

"I would change the way I put it together because some of my favorite parts are hidden."

"If I did this project again, I would definitely use many different components to make the creation fuller and complete."

"I learned how to bring my visions to life through art, by building a sculpture of something straight from my imagination."

"This project helped me to visually see anything can be considered as art."

"My level of creation has definitely increased, I never new I could make something out scraps."

"I had a lot of cool pieces that contributed to my success and my failure was how limited my creativity was at the start of the project."

"The excess amount of materials available, and the inclusion of paint and spray paint contributed to my success."

"This project changed my outlook on things. Old broken things can be recycled to be something new and cool!"

Driving Question:

How can I create a mechanism from recycled materials that might fit into a sci-fi or steampunk movie as a prop?

