21st Century Learning Journal Activity

Teacher Notes

- The goal of this activity is to work on the Four Cs of 21st Century Learning: *communication*, *collaboration*, *creativity*, and *critical thinking*. Implicit in the 4Cs is the idea of *conflict resolution*.

    - Because of the highly collaborative nature of this activity, the Four Cs of 21st Century Learning could be incorporated into almost every aspect of this project, allowing students to take advantage of learning about them as well as STEM learning.

- The following journal questions should be presented over several days, rather than answered all at once.

- Ideally, some should be completed before starting a group project. They can be woven into work in the days/weeks leading up to a project.

- Students could answer the questions themselves, pair up with a fellow student (or students) and answer as a group, or use the internet to find and present their answers.

- Students could answer this using standard paper and pencil or on anonymous share group document using a platform, or known shared group document using platforms like Google Apps, Twitter, Instagram, etc.

- You could have the students create a class Google Slides presentation which could be displayed on the a smart board anytime you aren't using it (such as when students are engaged in cooperative work).

1. Conflict may occur when working with others; however, it can also be prevented. What are some things that can be done to prevent conflicts from arising?

2. What will you do/how will you feel if you are required to work with someone very different from you? How can you work to produce the best result?

3. Imagine you are in a group in which one of your group members is not doing their share of the work, and you are stuck doing most of it or ending up with a less than desirable product. What can be done to resolve the situation?

4. If you spend a lot of time working on your project and your partner accidentally loses or deletes a file, breaks a product, forcing you to start over, how do you respond to this situation? What can you minimize the damage?

5. Imagine you are in a group and you notice that one person seems to dominate the conversation. How can you change this situation so that every person has equal time to speak?
    a. How could you fix it if you were the person who is dominating the conversation? How could you determine if you were that person?
    b. Imagine you are someone who tends to be quiet. How could you speak up or otherwise contribute so that others are aware you are doing your part for the project?

6. Imagine you are forced to work with someone you don't like. How can you resolve that situation and ensure that your project turns out well?

7. Imagine you are working on a project and you feel like your recommendations are not being considered. As a result, you feel like the project won't turn out well. What can you do to resolve this situation?

8. Imagine you are in a group and you notice that one person seems to speak much less often or seems standoffish. What are some reasons why someone might do this? How could you help them be part of the group (without overwhelming them)? How could you ensure that they do their fair share without intimidating them?

9. How would you handle it if one person was absent on a key work day and thus doesn't contribute?

10. How would you make up it up to your group members if **you** were the one who was absent on a key work day?