Logbook

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Dec 21st 2023 8:30 - 9:45 We discussed our topic and began to fill out the basic CYSF information such as basic project info and Ethics and Due Care 2A. Brainstorming some general ideas for the main question. From here we were able to plan ahead and get a root understanding of which direction our project was leaning towards.

Jan 3rd 2024 6:00 We held a meeting where we talked a bit about our problem and did some research.

Jan 5th 2024 7:45 We met up to discuss questions and started some basis to do our research on. We were able to plan out our main research questions that we were later planning to add on to when finalizing our project. After this we were able to get a basic understanding of the foundation of our project, knowing what we need to do to move on. Our project is mainly about grasping the concept of biodegradable plastic and how we can modify our everyday plastic to make it friendlier for our ocean ecosystems.

Jan 13 - Feb 28, 2024 We continued to do research on microplastics, polymers, and microbes that could potentially decompose plastic, during this time period.

Mar 4, 2024 We completed our paragraphs of research, going deeper into the types of chemicals that plastic exposed to other living organisms. We also added to paragraphs of research we already had, trying to understand microplastics and their negative health impacts on animals. On this day we managed to make progress on our research while establishing expectations for our conclusion.

Mar 6, 2024 We made quite a bit more progress, by going deeper into chemicals, bacterias and enzymes that could help with plastic pollution in terms of research. We also started our method, listing everything we did for the past few months and stating what our plan had been at the beginning. Along with this we managed to write an acknowledgement to thank all the coordinators, organizers and judges that are helping make our project possible.

Mar 7, 2024 We kept going with research, and started planning out our tri-fold as well as possible applications for our project. Along with this we were fine tuning other parts of the project that we already had done like our problem. Planning for the other sections took most of our time, for instance thinking about graphs that might be helpful to explain the effects of pollution, or a demonstration that could somehow be part of our presentation.

Mar 8-9, 2024 Over the weekend we made as much progress as possible, finishing our method, writing our conclusion, making graphs for our data and so forth. We were able to finish our research, now fully understanding all concepts of plastic, how it plays a part in global warming, how it's structured and most importantly how we can stop it from growing. We were able to finish our conclusion knowing what we wanted to do with our research moving forward and how it can help potentially put a stop to plastic pollution.

Mar 10, 2024 We got together to make our tri-fold, seeing how we could make each section connect in a way that made sense to the judges. Our progress really improved as we made slides to print out and glue to our trifold. We also started thinking about how we would present to the judges and preparing to write a script that we would roughly follow.

Mar 11, 2024 We wrote our script making sure to showcase all aspects of our project, but mainly our research to explain to the judges how we could help stop plastic pollution. Constantly, we re-read our work to make sure the judges would be able to understand and that we weren’t moving too fast or too slow, but to really make sure it was good we practiced by presenting to a few people.

Mar 12-13, 2024 These 2 days we started making little changes here and there to our script, tri-fold, log book, and basically everything the judges were going to see. We tried to iron out any last wrinkles and prepared to present.