



Ninth Grade Biology

Storyline:

Dig Deep

Throughlines:

Steward of Creation

Order Discoverer

Deep Hope: May we look at the natural world with curiosity and wonder and dig deeper to see God's fingerprints throughout all creation.



I can dig deep into the concepts of biology to see God's orderliness throughout creation and to discover how I can do my part as a steward in caring for His orderliness.

FLEX Story: *Students were tasked with creating a testable question regarding plant propagation methods. After finding a good question, students carried out their experiments, making sure they used the scientific method. They wrote a proper lab report and then created care cards for the plants that included their testable question, their findings, how to care for the plant and a scripture verse. They were then tasked with physically handing the plant and the care card to someone as a gift.*

Student Reflections:

"We dug deep into how we needed to think about something that hasn't already been tested and that we wouldn't be able to just look up the answer on the internet. I think it helped me get out of my comfort zone with being able to work and communicate with people that I normally would not talk to or work with in general. I think it was also out of my comfort zone to see some of our plants completely die, and know that it is all part of the experiment and that it is helping us learn for the future."

"The FLEX project fits with the SWCHS throughline servant hearted workers because I had to work hard to make an experiment, conduct the experiment, propagate a plant, and care for the plant before I had to give it away to bring joy to someone who could use it. I cared for the plant on behalf of someone else: Mrs. Devries to bring her joy in her grief. It also connects with the SWCHS throughline loved by God, lover of others because I was able to spread God's love through delivering the plant."

Teacher Reflections: *Students have to push themselves into a deeper wondering and thinking to create their questions and have perseverance and patience, as propagating plants takes longer than most other experiments. Students choose who to give their plants to, but it cannot be an immediate family member. People receiving the plants can be anyone else and can be given in thanks, celebration or sympathy. Plants may be given as an entire group or individually and all students must be physically involved in the giving of the plant. By doing this FLEX project, students are doing real work in horticultural science and it meets the needs of people who are celebrating, grieving or are in need of some encouragement or thanks. My deep hope of being curious and wondering about the natural world, the storyline of digging deep and the throughline of being stewards of creation are incorporated into this project, as students create questions, dig deeper into their thinking and questioning and care for the plants and for the people in our area.*

Teacher: Julie Bowers j_bowers@swchs.org

Southwest Christian High School
Chaska, MN | swchs.org
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