

LAKE ORION PROJECT 21 LEARNING OPPORTUNITY IDEAS

Level	Learning Opportunity
Elementary	I am very familiar with the International Baccalaureate Programme. The culminating event for the Primary Years Programme (PYP) is an Exhibition. I am not suggesting you look into becoming an IB school, as that is not what you are looking for in this project. I am suggesting that you use your curriculum and resources to create something similar to the Exhibition. The Exhibition is a unit of study where the students choose what they want to learn (within a framework) and how they want to share the learning. Six weeks are devoted to the exhibition, along with lots of staff and resources. They are four components to the Exhibition: written component, oral component, creative component and action. You can find an example at http://youtu.be/Sb0Fx2pYtPE .
Elementary	Create FIRST® LEGO® League (FLL) teams at the elementary/middle school levels. FIRST® LEGO® League is a worldwide program for 9-14 year olds designed to get them excited about science and technology. Other FIRST® opportunities include the FIRST® Robotics Competition for high school students, of which Lake Orion High School has a team. (www.usfirst.org) FIRST® LEGO® League is for Grades 4-8 (ages 9-14). Children get to: Strategize, design, build, program, and test a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® technology; Create innovative solutions for challenges facing today's scientists as part of their research project; Apply real-world math and science concepts; Develop employment and life skills including critical thinking, time management, collaboration, and communication while becoming more self confident; Become involved in their local and global community; Choose to participate in official tournaments and local events; Qualify for an invitation to World Festival; and Engage in team activities guided by FLL Core Values.
Elementary	CSI: Lake Orion: Elementary students can be "trained" in some crime scene investigation skills and then combined in crime-solving teams. Each team member can be assigned specific investigative tasks. The students will then use their investigation skills to solve a "crime" after arriving on a make-shift "crime" scene.
Elementary	Clue-Me-In Reading Competition - Mainly for 3 rd – 6 th grade students. An age-appropriate reading list of 10-20 books is compiled at the beginning of the school year (or even at the end of the previous school year to allow for summer reading). Teams of 4-5 students are assembled at the start of the school year. The teacher may want to group the teams based upon a variety of reading levels. The team members would then work together to develop a strategy to compete in a jeopardy style contest based up the books. Each school/grade would have practice contests throughout the school year to determine the school champion team that you would send to a district competition between the elementary schools. The quizzes consist of a moderator reading a maximum of 3 clues. The correct "answer" is identification of the book. Each clue is easier than the one before and each has different point values (Easier clue = lower point value). The goal is to gain more points than the other competing team within a certain amount of time or number of questions. Other elementary schools and districts participate in this program and LOCS could easily model their program after the other distr
Elementary	Provide foreign language options and instruction at the elementary level. I feel we should provide our kids with the opportunity to learn a foreign language at an early age and that having a fee based class offered one afternoon a week during the school year is not accommodating to everyone who would like to avail themselves of the opportunity. The foreign language opportunities should be offered in a few different languages, i.e. Spanish, Chinese, Italian, German.... as well so that we can compete with other districts within Michigan and the nation as well as globally. Learning a foreign language at an early age is often easier to do instead of waiting until kids are in middle school or later. Not only should the language be taught but basic concepts or fundamentals of the culture to lead to an understanding of the culture itself. I am very familiar with Oxford's offerings and think they are affording their children a great advantage I wish we could have for our children here in Lake Orion.
Elementary	Provide options for learning how to play an instrument in elementary school-comparable to that which is offered in the Oxford School District-Strings instrument options.
Elementary	Help schools and other community organizations become "Green" schools or businesses.

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Middle School	The Act Club provides students with an opportunity to work together towards service projects both locally and internationally. The club will team up with other organizations such as the Lake Orion Senior Center and our Local Rotary Club to participate in service projects. The group will also tap into the knowledge base of our local seniors to gain an understanding of local community issues.
Middle School	Developing an online foreign language learning opportunity. Mandarin Chinese can be taught with the instruction of an online tutor and computer access for the students.
Middle School	Model UN international Club. Students learn to be an ambassador by debating current international and local issues based on an agenda. Collaborate ideas and negotiate with supporters and adversaries.
Middle School	Photo Journalism. Students will compile their own pictures into a book(s) to tell the stories they want to.
Middle School	Robotics Club. Students will work as a group to develop devices for real world challenges using engineering skills. Students can link up with other students internationally to discuss global problems and how the field of engineering and robotics can benefit people worldwide.
Middle School	Students love to read and share their ideas with others, so besides connecting with their peers, students will be given the opportunity to discuss books and multicultural themes with students from another country. Through the use of an online website (skype or epals.com) students will be able to interact globally. This type of activity could be used in the classroom and/or at home. This allows students a wonderful opportunity to share their opinions about books and gives them a chance to network and communicate with students from another country.
Middle School	Partner middle school students with senior citizens to teach seniors how to use a variety of technologies. Middle schoolers will work as a team to develop powerpoint presentations and follow-up lessons for using common websites and technologies such as: Email, Facebook, Snapfish, Digital pictures (downloading, scanning and editing), Cell phones (making/receiving calls, texting, checking voice mail), Smartphones (pictures, downloads, internet, settings), and Tablets. Each middle schooler will present one mini-session relative to the specific topic and then all members of the project team will assist seniors in completing an assignment specific to the mini-session presentation. There may be multiple mini-sessions for each specific topic. The final portion of each session will require the middle schoolers to find out from the seniors how the technology taught is different from what was available to them when they were of middle school age. The middle schoolers will be required to develop a compare and contrast paper and presentation at the completion of their work with the seniors.
Middle School	Creating a "Safety and Security Online" Campaign - Middle school is the time when kids start to develop their own identities. Part of this branching out process includes an increased usage of social media applications. It is important that students are educated about safety and security online so that they can use these applications safely, securely, and effectively.

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High School	Create a Career Center and/or a Workforce Development and Education Center to help students find jobs and evaluate career options while in school. Many students need to work in the community to earn wages while also learning social, interpersonal, and job skills that provide a great foundation for their future. Through a Career Center, students could reach out to local businesses, monitor job boards, and match the student workforce with needs in the community. Local businesses would benefit from having access to a large number of diverse workers through one organization and the students would benefit from having one place to market themselves to many potential employers. Additionally, opportunities to provide workforce education and training could be developed and offered. Students would benefit from understanding what types of careers are available, what training and education are required, and perhaps experience a day in the life of an industry worker. Local businesses would benefit from having a well educated and trained workforce and may also be willing to speak and provide other opportunities for the students.
High School	Students will create and implement an Orientation Program for incoming ninth graders, new students to Lake Orion High School, and foreign exchange students. The final product can include: Written materials distributed to all new students; Video clips/video library accessible by all new students; Ice breaker activities for new students; Mentors provided for new students; Language support/materials in World Languages for exchange students; Orientation day(s)/week at Lake Orion High School for new students before school starts; Regular meetings/activities throughout the school year; and An evaluation of the orientation and activities throughout the year that includes improvements for the future.
High School	Start a high school charity club (non profit organization) which raises funds to be given toward specific needs in the community as determined by the Club. Key Activities: Developing Vision, Mission Statement and Objectives for the Club; Developing Process and Criteria for Raising and Distributing Funds; Raising Funds; Interacting with Other School Activities, Local Businesses and Local Community; Tracking Funds; Identifying Specific Needs in the Community; Distributing Funds.
High School	Create an online correspondence site that provides a method to increase English vocabulary. This can be linked to modern German, Spanish and French offered at the high school. Words can be selected from any subject of interest to the students. They can have some fun with this as they discover the meanings and applications of words in English and other languages using for example role play, song or poetry.
High School	Create math skill videos for young children to be posted on the LOCS website. Have high school children create short videos demonstrating basic math skills with easy to visualize concepts. Additional math skills could include helpful hints as aids in math.
High School	Due to the economic climate, foreclosed homes are prevalent. Two hundred twenty-five Lake Orion foreclosed homes were listed on Yahoo Real Estate web site on 10/4/11. While abandoned homes could be target for vandalism, it could also be a tremendous opportunity for teenagers. Unfortunately, some foreclosed homes have been neglected and/or abused by its previous owners. "Adopting" a foreclosed home to monitor, maintain, and even improve aids the community and the participating students.
High School	Age-Appropriate Life Skills training. Classroom provides an academic study of Life Skills to provide the breadth and depth of topics. Student's Home is used to provide opportunities to practice and gain experience with parents support. Example Topics: Meal Planning, Nutrition, Grocery shopping and cooking; Personal Finance, Family budgeting, Income Taxes, Investing and Savings; Home Maintenance, Car Care, Basic Mechanics and wood working; Clothing, Fashion, Sewing, Washing; Family Planning, Childcare, Dating, Relationships, Marriage and Conflict solving; Medical Care, Emergency First-Aid, Medicine and Medical Insurance; Career Studies, Skills Planning and Goal Setting; Values, Ethics, Morality, Cultural Awareness, Customs. (Multi-cultural comparison); Laws, Rules, Cultural Norms, traditions and taboos; Character Development, Self-Awareness, Self-Confidence; Study Skills, Knowledge is Power, Experience is Strength, Time Management Skills; Religious Concepts: Academic comparison of World Religions. Does not teach belief, only awareness of what religion is around the world and its impact; Physical Fitness, Martial-Arts, Self-Defense, Sportsmanship;
High School	Establish a "Teen Social Event" (14-18 yrs. old) every month utilizing local businesses, high schools groups, and community centers, churches and charitable organizations. The activity would bring in pool tables, ping pong, video games, food, beverages, dj for an evening of socializing with peers from Clarkston, LO and Oxford. One Friday night per month December - March at various locations in the Clarkston, LO and Oxford area from 7:00 – 10:00 PM. A small fee of \$5 would be charged and this would include 2 pieces of pizza and a soda. Additional snacks would be provided at additional charges. Sponsorship/donations of good and services would be necessary to make this affordable.