

DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: How Stuff Works

GRADE: 8

Offered: 1 period every other day

Type of Course: elective

Course Description:

Innovations and the development of new technologies have changed how basic products are developed, constructed and shared with consumers. This course will consist of student driven inquiry projects that investigate and share how various “stuff works.” Students will apply practical and creative thinking skills as well as informational literacy and media literacy skills during the course of their investigations. A variety of print and digital resources such as journals, websites, and industry-related publications, will be used for research purposes.

Anticipated Course Outcomes:

Students will gain a deeper, more technical understanding and appreciation for various inventions, products and amenities that they both use and enjoy. Students will improve their research skills, such as locating reliable sources and paraphrasing information as well as being able to communicate information and ideas effectively to an audience.

Recommended Course Materials and Supplies:

Charged Computer - Chromebook

Grading Criteria:

The bulk of the grade will be based on homework, reports, and presentations.

- Test = Possible tests based on information learned during student presentations.
- Reports = Students will decide on one or more consumer products-inventions-topics that personally interest them and they will research their choice(s), create presentations, and present to the class.
- Homework = Students may be assigned to read articles or watch videos on certain products-inventions-topics and answer questions.

MYP Criteria will be used for grading purposes:

Criteria A: Inquiring and Analyzing

Criteria B: Communicating

Criteria C: Reflecting on the Impacts of Science