Subject Area: All subjects

Grade Level: 6 – 12 (ages 11 - 18)

Time: At least one 45-minute class period; time outside of class as necessary

Lesson Objective:
Students will use Webspiration™ to help them plan and successfully complete a project.

Common Core State Standards¹:
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Writing:
Standard 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

Overview:
Use the Group Project Plan template with your students to help them successfully organize and complete a group project (Webspiration Classroom™ Starter>Starter Docs>Thinking & Planning>Group Project Plan). Doing so will enable your students to more effectively identify project goals and steps needed to successfully complete the project. By consolidating all of the necessary information for a project on one visual diagram and using the collaboration tools in Webspiration™ throughout the course of the project, each group member can easily see what has been done and what still needs to be accomplished.
Preparation:
- This lesson requires Internet access and the Webspiration Classroom software application published by Inspiration® Software, Inc. It can be accessed by visiting <http://www.webspirationclassroom.com>.
- Access to library resources may also be helpful for student research.

Lesson:
1. Open the Group Project Plan template and demonstrate for students how it can be used to successfully complete a group project. Explain that students can add visual Symbols, as well as text, to their diagrams using the Symbol libraries. This is not essential to developing a successful plan, but the visual information can help group members focus on and remember important details about the project.

2. Open the example file (Webspiration Classroom Starter>Examples>Thinking & Planning>Group Project Example) and talk the students through it, as well, so they have a better idea of what a finished project plan might look like.

3. Be sure to point out how additional information can be added in Notes. Demonstrate how notes that have been added to symbols can be shown by clicking the Note Quick Controls in the upper-right corner of the symbol with the note. All notes in a diagram can be shown quickly at the same time in Outline View.

4. Organize students into groups of 2-4. Groups will then choose topics for their projects. You may want to provide a list of acceptable topics, or you may have groups choose topics and then submit their proposals for review.
5. Student groups can collaborate on the progress of their project and obtain feedback from the teacher using the collaboration tools. Documents can be shared with others using the **Collaborate Tab**. The **Comment Tab** can be used to comment on the document, or the **Chat Tab** can be used, if it is turned on at your school, to discuss ideas in real time.

### Adaptations / Extensions:

- An alternate **Project Plan** template is also available with more guiding questions to help students plan their projects: Webspiration Classroom Starter>Starter Docs>Thinking & Planning>Project Plan.

- For help planning a project, see the **Project Design for Teachers** template: Webspiration Classroom Starter>Starter Docs>Thinking & Planning>Project Design for Teachers. There is also an example: Webspiration Classroom Starter>Examples>Thinking & Planning>Project Design for Teachers Example.