Challenge-based learning example:

How can we reduce food waste in our community?

- Teacher guided questions to narrow the focus.
- Students researched the extent of the problem.
- Students interviewed owners and workers at two local restaurants.
- Some of the suggested solutions included sending food to homeless shelters two or three days a month and sending food home with workers more often.
- Students discussed implementation with restaurants.
- Students evaluated the effectiveness of the solution and reflected on the
Why Challenge-Based Learning?

- Challenge-based learning is a multi-disciplinary approach to engaging students and leveraging technology to solve real-world issues.
- It is for educators in any setting including K-12, community groups, youth groups, 4H leaders, youth professionals
- It can provide the framework for educators to create challenging, interactive, collaborative and hands-on learning activities
- This fact sheet provides the educator with the basic concepts of challenge-based learning and resources to get started today!

What You Should Know About Challenge-Based Learning

**Student-driven learning:** solves real-world problems with actionable solutions.

**Educators role:** Plan and guide the process, encourage, monitor pace of work and encourage research and collaborative thinking.

**Students role:** Fully engaged, work collaboratively, and employ critical thinking skills.

**Software tools:** Presentation software, Skype or other communication software, video-editing software and online research databases.

**Hardware tools:** Laptops, tablets, note pads, document cameras and video cameras.

**Advantages:** Engages learners by putting them in control.

**Limitations:** Time-consuming, requires knowledgeable teacher/guide and topic must be actionable.

**Assessment:** Observations, videotaped group discussions, surveys, journals, and reflective essay or video.

**Research:**
1. Challenge-based learning is effective in building 21st-century skills.
2. It engages students in learning.
3. Teachers find it helps students master the material and makes good use of limited time.
4. It is ideally suited to teaching in a technologically rich environment.


**Challenge-based learning supplemental reading list:**

Learn more about Challenge-based learning, view examples and stories about it, and find resources at: https://www.challengebasedlearning.org/pages/welcome

Classroom Guide and Toolkit: https://www.challengebasedlearning.org/toolkit