

Ongoing Engineering Project Design

As we get close to the end of the semester, it's time to design some engineering project of your own! We were going to end our semester with "Personal Individual Projects" anyway, so this is a perfect time for you to design your own at-home project and make it a reality!

Look through the project suggestions in the table below, and then brainstorm another 10 ideas for fun things you could work on over the next few weeks from home. Remember that in brainstorming, it's okay for some of the ideas to be fun and silly, while all the others might be more simple.

<i>Redesign a space in your home</i>	Watch an engineering YouTube Channel	<i>Fix something broken</i>	Learn how something works	<i>Design a solution to a problem</i>
Redesign a toy/device	<i>Design a home storage system</i>	Design a new kind of toy for a sibling	<i>Create a model space station/Mars base</i>	Build a big rube-goldberg device

Now comes the tough part. Deciding what you want to do as a project! Think a little bit about what resources you have at home to use for this project and then decide what would be fun and doable.

Once you've brainstormed different ideas, you'll need to settle on one. In the space below, identify (briefly) the project you'd like to work on:

Now create a short design brief by filling in the grid below:

Problem/Idea statement	Criteria for success	Constraints on the project	Deadline	Audience/Scope
			May 8th	

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Once you've figured out some of the initial details, you need to make a little plan for how to proceed with your project. What should come first? Second? Third? How long will each step take and what materials do you need to do it?

To make your plan, answer each question about the project steps you identify below:

	Project Step #	Project Step Description	Estimated Time You'll Need	Materials You'll Need
PROJECT WEEK 1	Step 1			
	Step 2			
	Step 3			
PROJECT WEEK 2	Step 4			
	Step 5			
	Step 6			
PROJECT WEEK 3	Step 7			
	Step 8			
	Step 9			
	STEP 10	SHARE your project with Mr. Benshoof (and our class) in some way.	By May 8	Pictures, drawings, video, whatever works!

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The next thing to do is to:

1. Share your plan with Mr. Benshoof! You can e-mail your plan typed out, e-mail a picture, or drop off your written plan at the school. Just make sure Mr. Benshoof knows what you're planning to do!
2. Start working! Ideally you complete about 3 major steps in your project each week. This will help make sure that your project wraps up on time!
3. When your project is all wrapped up in a few weeks, we'll ask that you find some way to share your work with us. I'm wanting to put together an end-of-semester engineering showcase where people can share what they've been tinkering with these past few weeks at home. To do that, I'll hope to get either a few pictures, a video, a drawing/diagram, or a written description of what you've been doing. Think about how you might be able to share your work with us when it's all done! (but we won't worry about it for a few weeks still)