**Technology 8 Curricular Unit Outline**

Unit 1 (2 weeks)

Computer Strategies & Shortcuts

Acceptable Use/Ethics

Searching Techniques

Unit 2 (1 week)

Google Sites

Creating a website

Adding/Editing Pages

Adding Image/Video

Embedding blog

Unit 3 (4 weeks)

The JOY Project (see pages 2-4 below)

Mini-Lesson Topics (to be delivered throughout the trimester)

Website Etiquette

Blogging

Copyright Infringement

Plagiarism

Photo Composition Rules

WeVideo

Source Documentation

Unit 4 (2 weeks)

Public Service Announcement

Gather Data

Script Writing

Voice Thread

Unit 5 (3 weeks)

Commercial Advertising & Movie Making

Marketing Strategies

Commercial Creation & Filming

The JOY Project

(The Journey of You Project)

Each day people of all ages, races, and nationalities face disappointment, trials, hardship, and heartache. Some of those people choose to let their circumstances dictate their attitudes, their happiness, and the direction their lives will take. Others, however, choose to overcome adversity and rise above it. They choose to take the path that leads to happiness in spite of their circumstances. They cling to the hope of a brighter tomorrow.  They find joy in the little things. Those are the people who inspire us. Those are the people we must learn from. And those are the people who are the backbone of this project.

As you dive into this project, you will take a deep look at who you are. You’ll ask yourself the tough questions like: Who am I? What makes me tick? Do I have joy? How do I handle adversity? How do I treat others? What can I do to change? In what direction is my life headed? Am I doing all I can do to be the best I can be? You’ll ask yourself these questions and a thousand others. And, as you find the answers, you’ll discover you can be a changed person; a happier person; a person who can make a difference in this world. For more project details & project sample, visit the corresponding website: [The JOY Project](https://sites.google.com/a/oskycsd.org/the-joy-project/home)

**Project Details:**

1. Driving Questions:
   1. How does one's attitude affect his/her life?
   2. How can choosing joy change one's life?
   3. How can choosing joy change the way we view and/or interact with others?
2. Discussion/Reflection Questions:
   1. What is joy?
   2. Who do you know that is joyful? What characteristics do they possess that lead you to believe that they are joyful?
   3. What gives us joy?
   4. What steals our joy?
   5. Why are some people joyful while others appear to have no joy?
   6. How can joy affect a person’s attitude?
   7. How can attitude affect a person’s life?
   8. What can I do to re-discover joy in my life?
   9. In what ways am I allowing circumstances to steal my joy?
   10. Where can I find joy and/or things that bring me joy?
   11. What is adversity?
   12. What drives people to push through adversity?
   13. What characteristics do survivors possess that others do not?
   14. What can I learn from those who have overcome hardship/trial/adversity?
   15. Where do you find inspiration? Motivation?
   16. Who are the people you find most inspiring? Motivating?
   17. What characteristics do these people possess that inspire/motivate you?
   18. What can you learn from these people?

These and other questions will help guide you through your project. Each project will be individual and completely unique to its owner. Because it is a “Journey of You,” you and only you will determine what to include in your project. The teacher will act as facilitator and will help direct you as needed, but you will be the one who determines the direction your project takes.

Your project will include several pieces. It will include writing, photography, music, movies, and any other piece you can think to add to it. You will learn how to create a webpage, write a blog, compose photos, do authentic research, and communicate with others around the world. Your project will take you on a journey into worlds beyond our borders as well as deep into yourself. It will take you as far as your imagination will allow you to go.

As stated earlier, each project will be completely unique. Each student will choose the direction of his/her own project, and will be responsible for bringing it to completion. Individuals will be required to fill 100% of each day’s class time working on his/her project. For accountability and grading purposess, students will complete a [weekly accountability log](https://docs.google.com/a/oskyschools.us/spreadsheets/d/10ZfNiJaOxTDQTXY0SHYoZZVlukHuiviVJKM36ms-jZ0/edit?usp=sharing).

**Project requirements are as follows:**

* Updated website will include the following:
  + Embedded written reflections blog (thoughts) related to the project (no fewer than 2 per week)
    - Dated
    - Written at 8th grade level (or expected level of project owner)
    - Include proper spelling, capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure, grammar, etc.
    - Written in paragraph form (at least 6 sentences per paragraph)
  + Summarized stories of survival, inspiration, etc.
    - Written in own words (plagiarized work will not be accepted)
    - Include explanation as to why story is inspiring, enlightening, etc.
    - May include copyright-free images
    - Documented
  + Quotations (credited to owner)
  + Music or music video (credited to owner)
    - Include explanation as to why song is inspiring, enlightening, etc.
    - Background/history behind lyrics if/when possible
  + Photography - edited photos w/reflection explanation (no fewer than 2 per week)
    - Include explanation as to why that photo (or subject of the photo) brings joy
    - Original to project owner
    - Must follow rules for good photography
  + Inspirational Video
    - Include explanation as to why video is inspiring, enlightening, motivational, etc.
  + Joy List
    - Average 2 per day for a project total of 100 or more
  + Other Sources of Inspiration (books, documentaries, etc.)
* Documented research (properly cited)
* Face-to-face Interview (via Skype or other method)
* Global Connection (via comments or Skype)
* Movie Documentary of project (optional)