Bringing Science Research Topics into the Classroom: An Example Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)

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**Goal**
Stimulate and engage student interest using current research at our school

**Materials Development**

Text components were produced based on knowledge gained from an expert in the field of UAV research.

An interview with the expert was scripted and recorded as a listening activity for the students.

A poster template was produced as scaffolding for student presentations.

**Implementation**

Students interacted with text.

Completed a variety of comprehension activities.

Produced poster and present to classmates.

**Student Responses**

Summarized comments from the students

- Good to have different outputs than regular quizzes
- Producing a poster and giving presentation was enjoyable
- Interesting to see other people’s posters
- Interested to learn more about research (in both their own field of study and other fields)

**Reflections and Suggestions**

More than time should be allocated for poster production and presentation.

Most students were not aware of UAV research.

Students expressed interest in other fields of research, such as,

- Wireless communication
- Biofuels
- Satellites
- Mag lev
- Student competitions (Solar car, fuel efficient car, robot challenge)

If students give presentations based on their own field of study, they...

- have background knowledge
- are interested in the subject matter
- can talk more in-depth about the content
- can apply experience to future presentations
- have the opportunity to hear other presentations in similar areas