The background is a vibrant, hand-drawn illustration. It features a central yellow book with a sun, clouds, and a planet on its cover. Various school supplies like a ruler, pencil, and paper airplane are scattered around the book. The scene is decorated with yellow stars, blue stars, and autumn leaves in shades of yellow and orange. A light blue banner with a purple outline is positioned across the middle of the image, containing the main text.

# Why Student-Led Fridays?

They are the best part of the year!



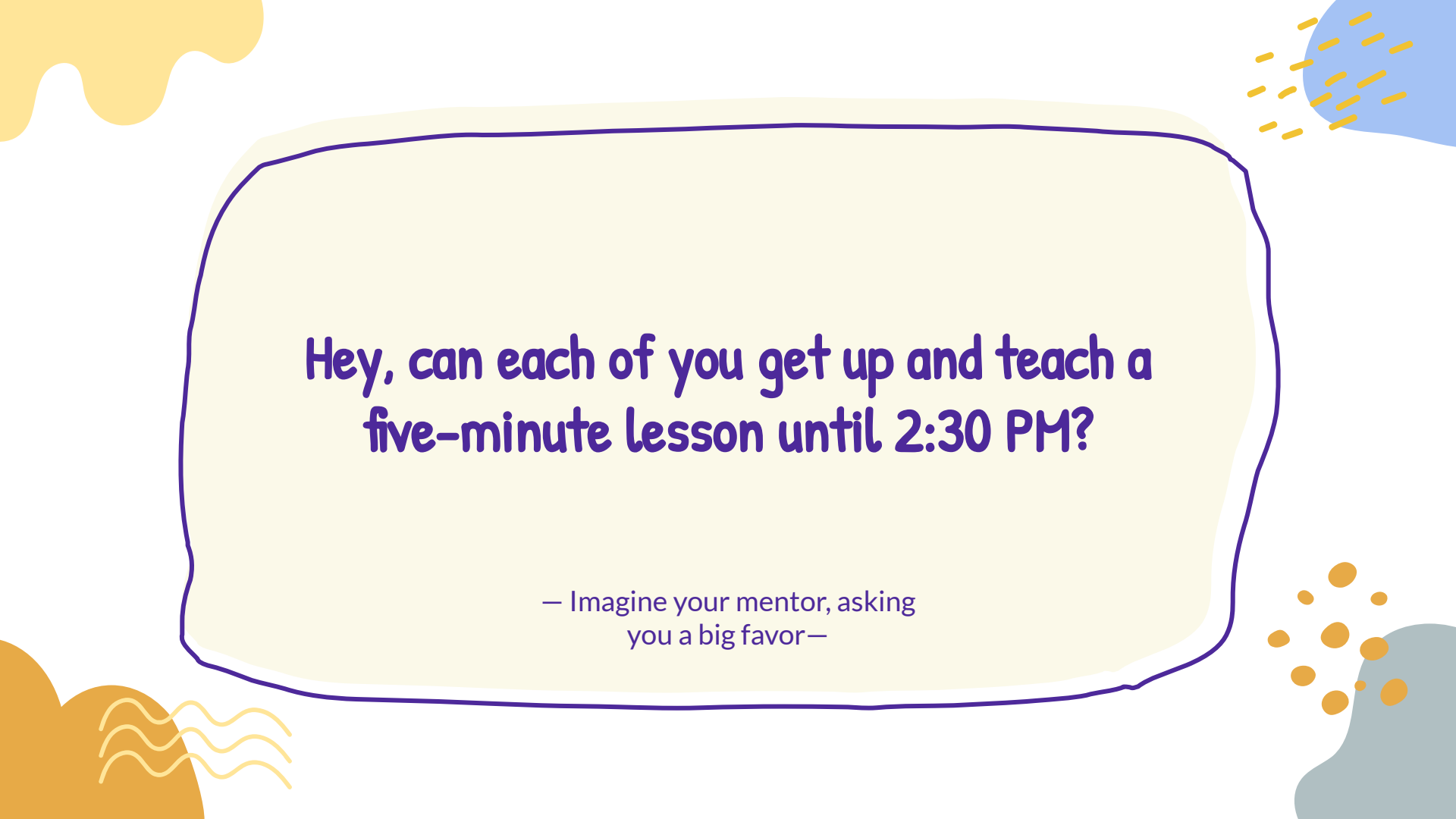
- ★ 11 years as a GS teacher and Case Manager

## Renee Di Pietro

- ★ Penn Delco School District, just south of Philadelphia
- ★ Teach daily Gifted Support Seminar course for grades 6, 7, 8
- ★ Case manager for grades 9-12 GIEP students



# Intro Student-Led Fridays



**Hey, can each of you get up and teach a  
five-minute lesson until 2:30 PM?**

— Imagine your mentor, asking  
you a big favor—



**What can you teach the room?**

— Imagine your mentor, asking  
you a big favor—



When I ask my kids to do this...



this is what they do...



# The History of Softball



# All About The Love of My Life

(Musical Theater)

# AI Advancements



By Eddie Buck



# Banned Books

A Student-Led Friday

# Why It Is So Difficult to Become a Professional Athlete

AJ Stone





<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>7th Grade P2</u></b>	<b><u>8th Grade P3</u></b>	<b><u>6th Grade P5</u></b>
Nov. 5	Riley J. (10/29) Superstition <a href="#">Lesson</a>	Nick D. (10/29) Deltahedron <a href="#">Lesson</a>	Halloween <a href="#">Lesson</a>
Nov. 12	Joey M. VR <a href="#">Lesson</a>	Ms. D How to Draw Graham Shaw Lesson ..	Robert R. Thanksgiving <a href="#">lesson</a>
Nov. 19	Amaya H. How to Take Over The World <a href="#">Lesson</a>	Grayson G. History of Toast <a href="#">lesson</a>	Sarah C. 12 Olympian Gods & Goddesses <a href="#">Lesson</a>
Dec. 3	David G. Maps of Countries <a href="#">lesson</a>	Allison R. Solar Energy <a href="#">lesson</a>	Peyton How Animals See the World <a href="#">lesson</a>

**2023**

Jan. 6

Ms. D

Ben G.

Michael H.

Origami [Lesson](#) Part 1

The Rise of YouTube and How  
People Earn a Living Off It  
[Lesson](#)

Winter and its history [lesson](#)

Jan. 12

Robert R.

Keira W.

Trey B.

Chicken [lesson](#)

Weight Training and Effects on the  
Body [lesson](#)

Trading cards [lesson](#)

Jan. 20

Class Debate

Ms. D

Gianna F.

Resilience [lesson](#) or  
Perfectionism [lesson](#)

Astrology [lesson](#)

Jan. 27

Mason D.

Ms. D

Mike H.

History of Arby's [lesson](#)

Flexibility Test [lesson](#)

Parrot Pals [lesson](#)

Ms. D - 360 Mammals lesson



After they do their first one, some will ask:

“Are there any other Fridays open, I like to sign up for another...”



# Welcome Student-Led Fridays



**What is SLF?**



# Thanks for coming!

## We're going to cover:

01

### Benefits

There are a lot of obvious benefits and others that may surprise you

02

### How to Start & Structure

A lesson plan template, reliable resources, and a blank calendar.

03

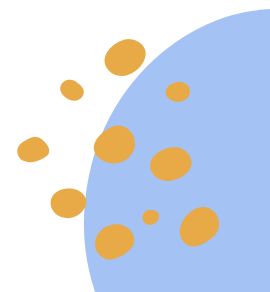
### Testimonial

I started here when I started this, and the kids will tell you in their own words.

04

### Conclusions

Where could you take this next?





# Benefits Student-Led Fridays

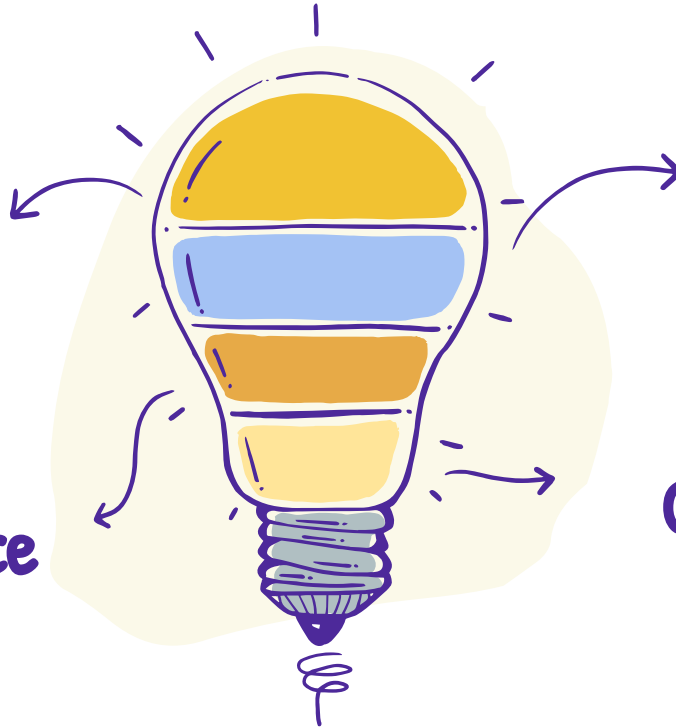
# Student Feedback



Skills Building



Great Practice



Educational Fun



Community Building

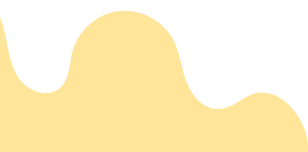







# My Reflections



- The students get to conquer something that might be hard for them, or indulge in something that they love.
  - Community building. None of our kids are exactly the same, sometimes they don't see what a gift that is, this helps them embrace it, and embrace each other.
  - The follow through and the growth in their skills from lesson to lesson is leaps and bounds each time they do one.
- 
- 



# Benefits



Current students report the strengths of this practice to be:

- Learning how to format lessons
- Creating quizzes for the end of their lessons
- Feeling an openness to all topics
- Appreciate the option to do a lesson with a partner after completing one individually
- Educational value, learning new things and topics that you won't learn in other classes
- Getting to share your passion
- Student empowerment
- Time management skills

*I'm curious what you think are the top benefits by the end of this...*





## In Their Words



I liked it because personally I don't like teachers talking the whole class but this lets me be the teacher and I liked it.

- 8th Grade

Since students make them, they tend to be more interactive with the class.

- 7th Grade

The most important elements of SLF's were the diversity of the lessons.

- 8th Grade

The most important element for me was practicing presenting in front of other people. It got me more comfortable with presenting in front of others.

- 8th Grade

You build comfort in your public speaking and also build confidence in your work.

- 7th Grade

The most important elements for me were creativity, formatting, how much information was provided, and how fun the presentation is.

- 7th Grade





## Benefits Reported Years Later



**The most important element for me was the openness of topics. Anyone could choose any subject they wanted, if they could find something to teach about it.**

**- 10th Grade**



**The most important elements for me during Student-Led Fridays were me being able to do my own research and lesson plan organizing to give a lesson to the class. It gave me flexibility while doing an assignment that up to that point I hadn't experienced in school.**

**- 10th Grade**

**The most important elements of SLF were that it really was up to the students to create their lesson, and we could teach the class about anything at all that we found interesting. I was able to teach my classmates about real world skills like proper nutrition and physics.**

**- 12th Grade**



## Benefits Reported Years Later



I liked how we would learn about things that we may never learn in any other class. We also got a chance to research and share a topic that we want our classmates to know about and take an interest in.

- 11th Grade



The most important elements for me were the lesson planning and the diversity of the topics.

- 11th Grade

*The creativity and planning that was involved in putting together a lesson that everyone would enjoy for a full class period. In my other classes, I wasn't able to create my own lessons and Student-Led Fridays allowed me to teach to the class about a creative topic of my own choosing.*

- 11th Grade



Current students





What do you think?  
What would be the benefits to having  
your students teach class?

*Turn and Talk*



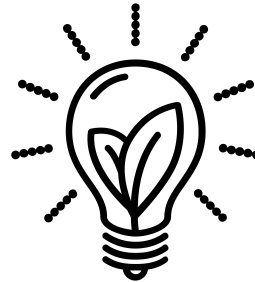
# Structure & How to Start Student-Led Fridays





## Structure & How to Start

**Do something different on Fridays for about two months. Model what you want them to do later. Present on all different kinds of topics. Rare careers out there, holidays history, cultural studies, art, STEM, and every area outside of the box. They will love it.**





## Structure & How to Start

**When ready, surprise your class and say, “For the rest of the year, you’re going to teach Fridays now.”**





## Structure & How to Start


**Have blank calendar printed and ask the students to sign up for two Fridays before the end of the school year.**





# The Calendar

The calendar is important because it's a living document and life will happen and things will be switched around and that's why you make a digital calendar to share and visit with them weekly to track progress and who's on deck.



## Student Led-Fridays 2023-2024

<i>Date</i>	<i>8th Grade P1</i>	<i>7th Grade P3</i>	<i>6th Grade P5</i>
10/19	Noah G. <a href="#">Flavor Lesson</a>	Monica S. <a href="#">Jiu-Jitsu Lesson</a>	Ms. D <a href="#">Large and Small GBS lesson</a>
10/27	Mason D. <a href="#">Texas RoadHouse lesson</a>	Sophia W. <a href="#">Sharks &amp; Art lesson</a>	Maggie B. <a href="#">Endangered Birds Lesson</a>
Nov. 10	Ms. D	Matt S.	
Nov. 17	Logan R.	Gianna F.	Molly S.
Dec. 1	Mason D.	Trey B.	Brielle H.
Dec. 8	Alex S.	Elizabeth R.	Sarah L.
Dec. 15	Robert R.		
<b>2024</b>			
Jan. 5	Peyton H.	Gianna F.	Peyton F.
Jan. 12	Leah F.	Michael H.	







## Structure

1. Provide a [lesson plan template](#) to complete with guidelines and goals
2. Provide [resources](#) that you would like the students to use if they cannot start on their own
3. Deadlines: Lesson plans are due one week prior to the lesson
4. Meet with the student to review any improvements they can make to their lesson plan, or message with them edits to be made. Challenge them to go deeper.





# Lesson Plan Template


- Structure: Students are given a skeleton of a lesson plan to complete
    - Students must include a lesson starter, learning activities, and a debrief of the activity or information shared
    - Students must create a presentation for their lesson that includes all their learning goals and planned activities
    - Blooket are popular ways that students test for learning at the end of their lesson
- 
- 



# Lesson Template

## Student Lesson Example

Students also turn in presentation slides for their lesson.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Presentation: 2/9/17

Grade: 6


Date Checklist Due: 2/5/18

Objective: Students will lead an activity or a lesson critique of a TED, TED-Ed, Vsauce, Discovery Learning or History channel video (or other approved video or activity) to be presented to the class. Students will review the video/activity ahead of time, introduce the topic of discussion the day of the presentation, and facilitate a full class lesson and discussion around the topic that you deem worthy for a Student Led Friday!

Video Time cap: 15 minutes max

Video time minimum: 5 – 10 minutes

Students will *make a copy of this document, complete this table below and share this document* with Ms. Di Pietro the Monday before the Friday presentation. [rdipietrodsd@gmail.com](mailto:rdipietrodsd@gmail.com)



Lesson goal: <i>My classmates will be able to (connect, learn, discuss, design, create, prove, develop a logical argument, summarize, show, name, or report...)</i>	My classmates will be able to create their tin foil boats and learn about engineering and physics through the execution of their design.
Video/Activity Title:	STEM Through Everyday Eyes
Video/Activity link:	Engineering: <a href="https://youtu.be/bipTWWHya8A">https://youtu.be/bipTWWHya8A</a> and Physics: <a href="https://youtu.be/vWMKYID5fr8">https://youtu.be/vWMKYID5fr8</a>
Video/Activity summary:	The videos are a basic breakdown of the topics engineering and physics. The lesson shows an example of both of these happening at the same time.
5 or more discussion questions:  <i>Create 5 discussion questions that the class will answer in their Seminar booklets. Questions should reflect the topic of your presentation/activity and also help the audience to connect with the topic.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What was the hardest part of this activity?</li><li>• Based on this activity, would you ever want to build a real boat?</li><li>• What was your favorite part of this activity?</li><li>• Based on this activity, would you ever become an engineer or consider that as a field choice?</li><li>• Did you expect anything different to happen than what actually happened?</li></ul>
Conclusion / Wrap up	You may think that engineering and physics are very abstract concepts or careers, but they apply to things that we do all the time.

Essential Questions to reflect about and to be ready to answer via Google Form after:

- What categories, topics or skills did you explore to find your video? Examples: Technology, Entertainment, Design, Business, Science, Global Issues, Education
- How can we use this information in Seminar? In school? In life?
- What questions were raised from this video or activity for you?
- What are the implications on the world from the information presented?
- Did you learn anything through your presentation and research process? What did you do well, what do you want to improve?



# Structure, Make It Count (Graded)



## September Assignments

Assignments for September can be found here! :)

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## October Assignments

Assignments for October can be found here! :)

---



## November Assignments

Assignments for November can be found here! :)

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## Student-Led Friday Lesson Assignment, Lesson Plan Template and Resources

In this folder you will find the assignment for Student-Led Friday and where to turn in your lesson.

You will also find resources that you can use for your Student-Led Friday (lots of our favorite learning places to check out).

Turn in your Student-Led Friday to the assignment that is in this folder.







# Homebase Folder of Support



## Student-Led Friday Presentation Assignment (available each Marking Period)

Turn in your lesson here!

Every marking period a certain number of students will plan and present a lesson on a Friday to their class. Students will present on one Friday throughout the year, ...

· Due Friday, November 10, 2023 at 11:59 pm

---



## SLF Resources

These are links to awesome places to brainstorm your SLF lesson topics and content...

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## Student Led Friday Lesson Examples

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### Student-Led Friday Presentation Assignment (available each Marking Period)

Turn in your lesson here!

Every marking period a certain number of students will plan and present a lesson on a Friday to their class. Students will present on one Friday throughout the year, ...

· Due Friday, November 10, 2023 at 11:59 pm



## Lesson Resources

*Students can access trusted websites for resources*

*Students can access student lesson examples as well.*



### SLF Resources



[TED: Ideas worth spreading](#)



[AsapSCIENCE - YouTube](#)



[Lessons Worth Sharing | TED-Ed](#)



[Vsauce - YouTube](#)



[Science Friday](#)



[DIY Projects for Teens](#)



[TED: Ideas worth spreading](#)



[Great Big Story](#)



[Multimedia education resources | Encounter Edu](#)



### Student Led Friday Lesson Examples



[SLF lesson example](#)



[SLF lesson example 2](#)



[SLF lesson example 3](#)



[SLF lesson example 4: Solar Energy SLF Lesson](#)



[Student-Led Friday overview for organizing presentation](#) 20 KB





## Lesson Examples

*Students can access lesson examples (through the folder on Schoology).*

*"The Best Kindergarten  
You've Ever Seen"*

**The Magic of Dry Ice**

**Solar Energy  
Student Led Friday**



## Student-Led Friday Presentation Assignment (available each Marking Period)

Due: Friday, November 10, 2023 at 11:59 pm

Turn in your lesson here!



- Every marking period a certain number of students will plan and present a lesson on a Friday to their class.
- Students will present on one Friday throughout the year, or present on more than one occasion (thank you!)
- For this lesson, create a **Presentation** (with Slides or Canva) to present your lesson. In the lesson, include a **starter**, **learning activity**, and at least **5 discussion questions** that the class will complete at some point during the lesson.
- Please present your questions with a **Jamboard** activity or **Kahoot!** at the end of your lesson so that all can participate.

Let me know any questions that you have! There are a lot of resources here in the SLF folder if you need help finding a place to start for research.

Thank you,

Ms. Di Pietro

# Lesson Assignment

*This is the lesson assignment that is posted every marking period and when a student does not present that marking period, they are marked excused.*



## Debrief the Lesson

1. At the end of the lesson, after the lesson wrap up, have a quick classroom debrief on the lesson
2. Let students provide feedback to the presenter, and you provide feedback to the presenter
3. The guiding questions we use are on the next page

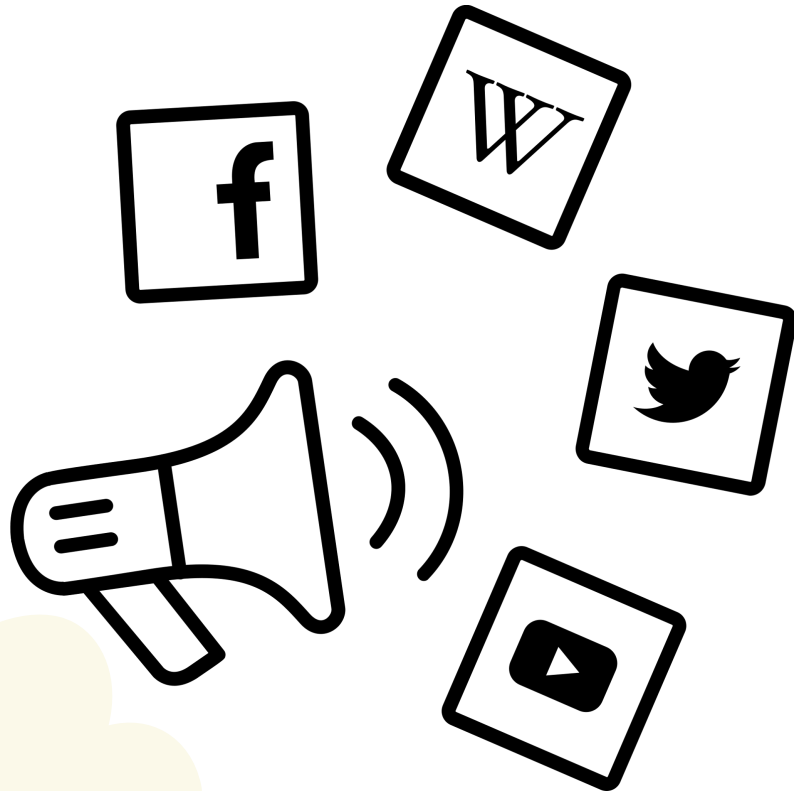




## Debrief Guiding Questions

1. What categories, topics or skills did you explore to find your video? (*technology, entertainment, design, business, science, global issues, education*)
2. How can we use this information in Seminar, in school, and in life?
3. What questions were raised from this video or activity for you?
4. What are the implications on the world from the information presented?
5. Did you learn anything through your presentation and research process? What did you do well, what do you want to improve?





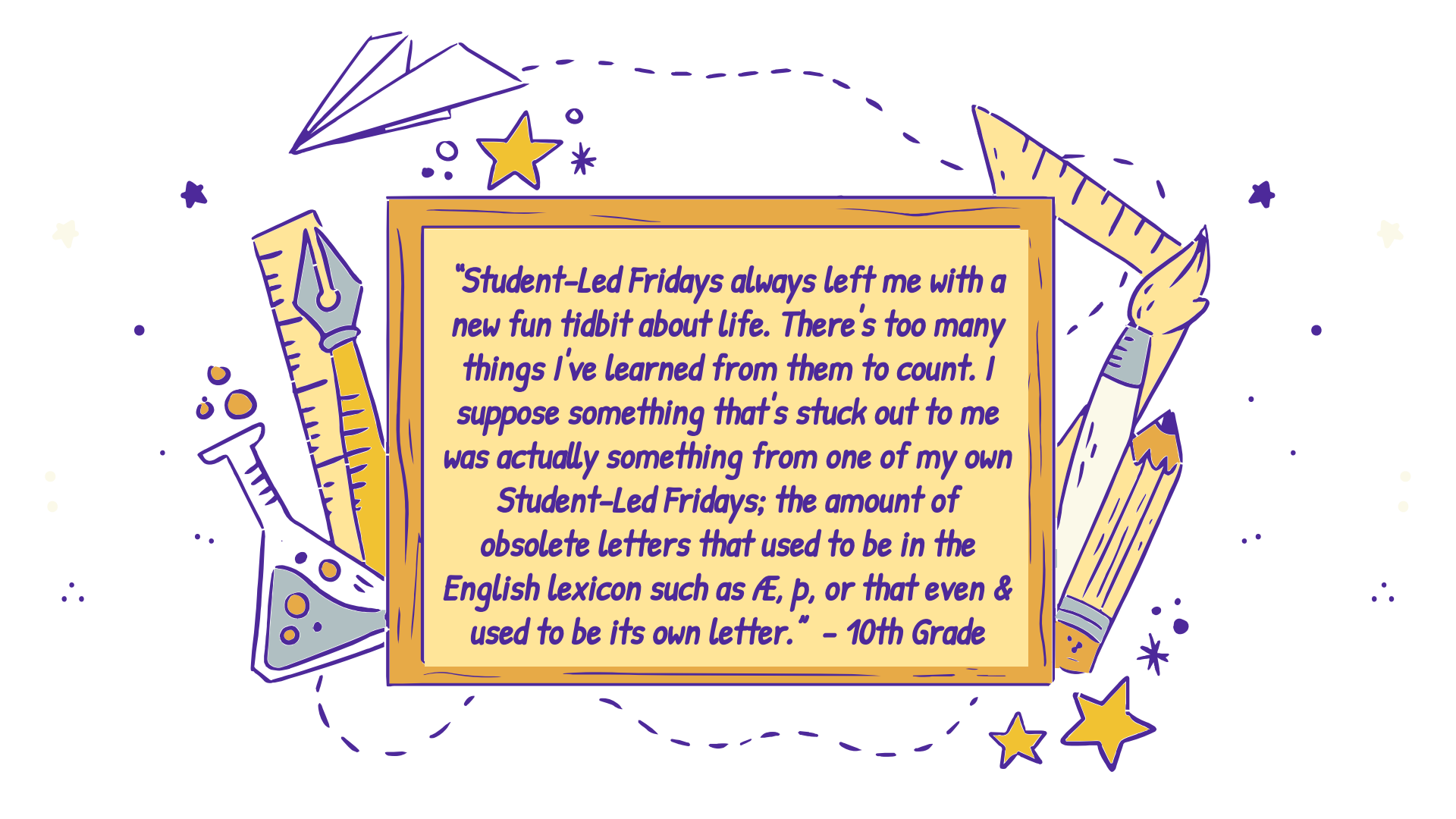
**Bonus:**  
Promote the work the students are doing online or with an email to their parents/guardians.



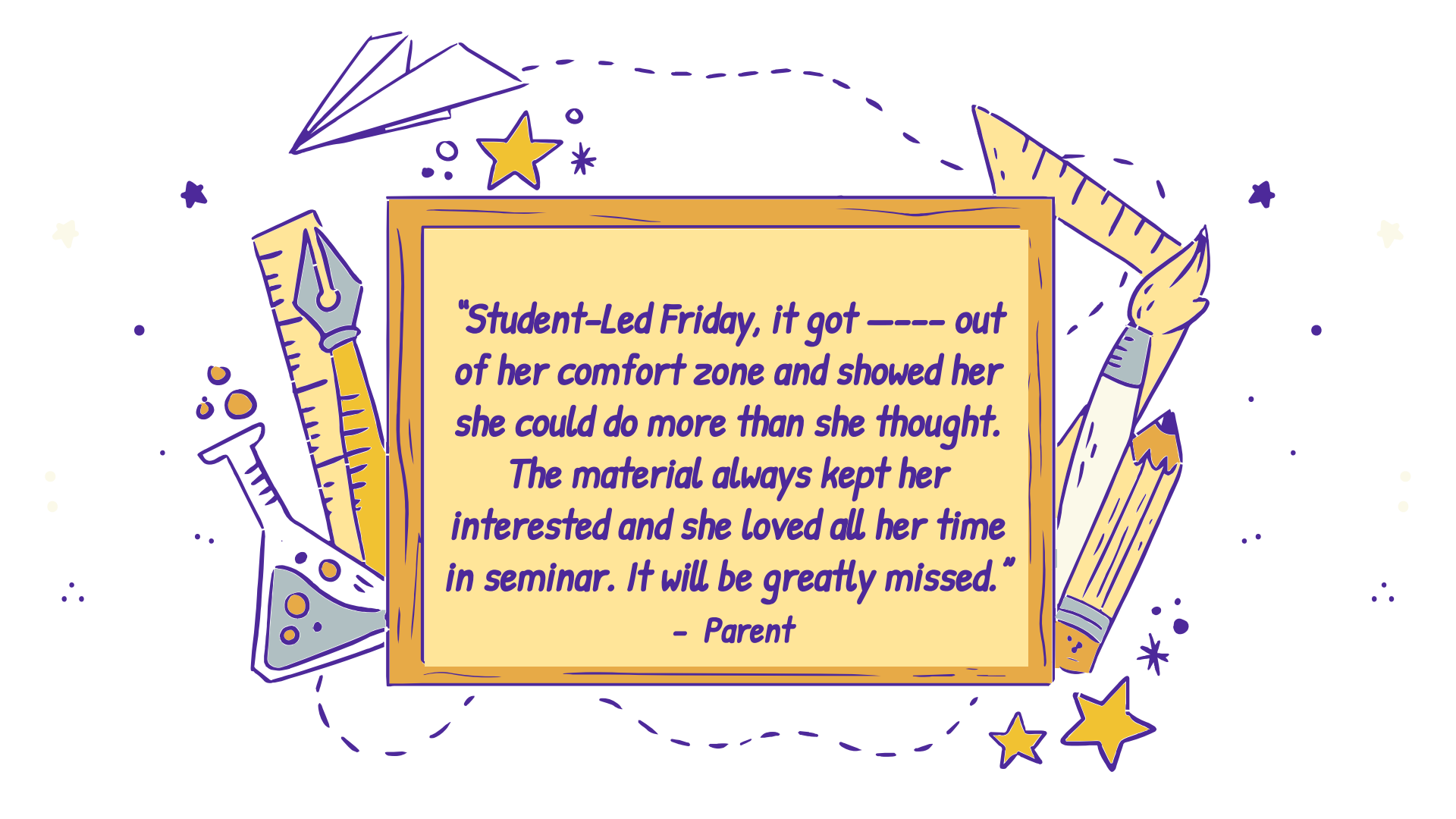
# Testimonial Student-Led Fridays








*"Student-Led Fridays always left me with a new fun tidbit about life. There's too many things I've learned from them to count. I suppose something that's stuck out to me was actually something from one of my own Student-Led Fridays; the amount of obsolete letters that used to be in the English lexicon such as Æ, þ, or that even & used to be its own letter." - 10th Grade*



*"Student-Led Friday, it got ----- out of her comfort zone and showed her she could do more than she thought. The material always kept her interested and she loved all her time in seminar. It will be greatly missed."*

*- Parent*



"Seminar really challenged --  
and made her operate outside  
her comfort zone more than  
any class. I know she felt like  
she could be herself in seminar  
more than other classes.."



- Parent



# Wrap Up Student-Led Fridays



## Wrap Up

- **How can you see this working in your classroom or gifted programs?**
  - **Would you assign topics for students to do presentations on?**
- 
- 



## Wrap Up

- **Where would you take this from here?**





## Wrap Up

- **What questions do you have for me?**





# Final Thoughts



1

*When it comes from them, sometimes I find it can't go wrong*



2

*The key is to have them do it more than once a year, once is not enough*



3

*All the skills build after 2,3,4,5 times*



4

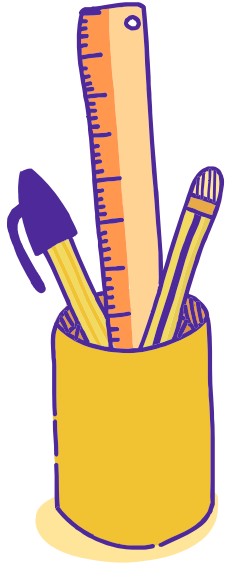
*As it continues, the aim becomes more focused :)*



The background features a vibrant, abstract design with stylized leaves in shades of purple, yellow, and blue. Scattered throughout are small yellow stars, a yellow pencil, a paint palette with yellow crosses, and a blue protractor. The letters 'A', 'B', and 'C' are also visible in yellow, blue, and yellow respectively. The central text is in a bold, purple, rounded font.

Thank you  
for all do  
for gifted  
youth!

CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, including icons by **Flaticon**, infographics & images by **Freepik**



## Renee Di Pietro

- ★ [rdipietro@pdsd.org](mailto:rdipietro@pdsd.org)
- ★ @DiPietro\_pdsd



Slide design is through  
slidesgo!