

# Genius Hour 2022-23



# Casey Rae



**Lorrie Chicoine**

## Research Process:

I made lists of information about Casey Rae. I printed a picture of Casey Rae.

## Product Description:

I organized lists of information into topics to share in an oral presentation and made a poster

## Topic:

My Dog

## Statement of learning and next steps:

This project will helped me get information about dogs.  
I want to learn more about Chocolate Labs.

# MiMi



**Joanna Ladd**

## **Research Process:**

I read books, talked with people, and made lists of what I know about Mimi. I also made a collage.

## **Product Description:**

I made a collage and organized the information I found so I could talk about it.

## **Topic:**

MiMi is a cat. She cries and I didn't know why.

## **Statement of learning:**

MiMi is a crazy cat. I love her a lot. I grew attached to her and I didn't want to.

# IMPROVING MY UPPER YARD

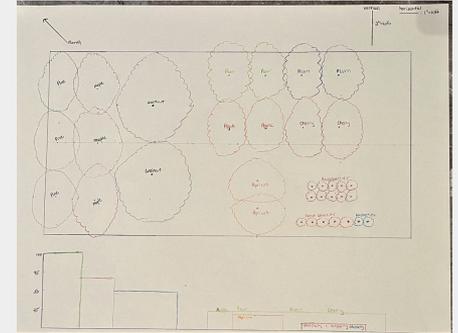


Rita Cantor

**How Can I Improve My Upper Yard so it doesn't look abandoned**

- Research and acquire trees through FEDCO
- What is FEDCO?
  - It is a Maine based garden supply and seed company
- Trees are grown in Maine so I know they will thrive
- They grow a variety of heirloom trees that are disease and insect resistant
- Have ordered from them in the past and am happy with their service
- Their catalog is very informative on each tree so can make an informed decision as to which trees will meet my requirements
- Measure the property and lay out a plot plan of trees so there is enough room between trees to fully grow out

## Plot Plan of lot with new plantings



### Understand the following

- Fertilization needs of the fruit and nut trees
- Learn to recognize insects and diseases that can occur and the most natural treatments
- Learn to prune the fruit trees- trees will be ordered with standard rootstock which is the longest lived and heartiest can be pruned to a 20 foot height
- Best practices for storage to maintain the fruit the longest

## Juniper Berry tea for health-always available



By Barb Averill

I researched on the internet, cross checked multiple sources for fact confirmation and chose UConn Pharmacy Medicinal Garden research studies, and NCBI as primary sources.

I hand harvested berries in Camden and made tea.

I was inspired to make art and write poetry as a way to give back to the juniper in kinship. I was inspired by 2 sources here: Maine Local Living School and Humansandnature.org

**Juniper Berries** are harvested by hand when they ripen after 3 years to dark blue. A few fresh berries make a healthy tea. Juniper has been traditionally used as diuretic, anti-arthritis, anti-diabetes, antiseptic and as treatment for gastrointestinal and autoimmune disorders.

What plant grows all around us in Maine and is used for medicinal purposes all year round? What is the most accessible method for its use as a remedy/preventive?

The tea is a spicy, invigorating way to stay healthy while enjoying the benefits of engaging in a synergistic relationship with nature. The more I learn about plants, the more I wish to learn. I plan to always engage with plants, like juniper. I plan to visit End of the Rainbow Alternatives in Farmington Falls to get more information from a local source.

Project Title

## Ice Out Research Project



Name: Alexandra  
Lockwood

Methodology/Research Process  
\*Researched progress of ice out by looking at articles on the internet.

\*Saw pictures of ice out and information on lake facebook page. Talked to family about ice out.

\*Talked with others about my research/process at genius hour.

Findings/Conclusions/  
Product

I found the factors that contribute to ice out. I concluded that ice out can look different from year to year depending on weather and other factors.

Topic/Question  
How does Ice Out happen on a lake?

Statement of learning or next steps: I had to stay focused on my initial inquiry question – there were interesting tangents I could have taken about the critters that live under the ice in winter or how the lake “resets” itself twice a year. I also learned some new things about technology – particularly about getting photos from my phone to computer to add to my presentation and how to effectively screen share on my current computer.

## Personal Care



Anna

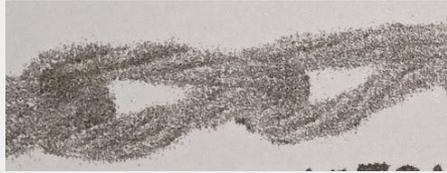
People  
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Topic/Question

Thay is help out there  
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# HOW TO UNDO A CHAIN STITCH



Sara Beech

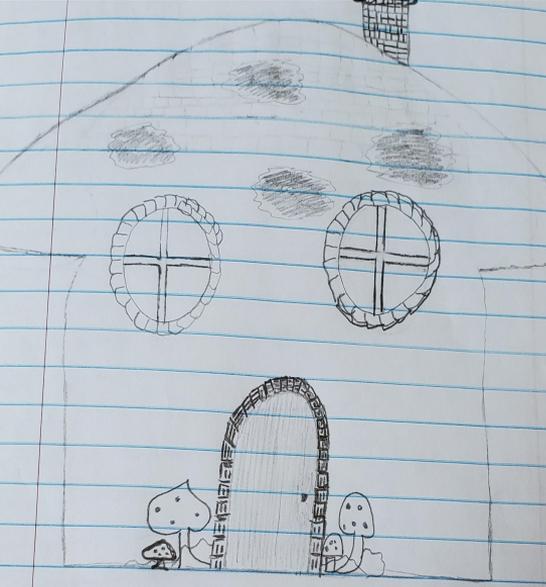
I read blog posts and watched videos about the history of chainstitch sewing machines, how the stitch is constructed, and how to deconstruct it. I practiced undoing chain stitching and was able to successfully pull the stitching out of a bag of grain!

I created a postcard to hang near my grain bags to help me remember how to undo the chain stitching. I can also share it with other people who want to learn how to undo a chain stitch.

I have learned and forgotten how to pull out a chain stitch a million times, I wanted to learn about the chainstitch and make a

Learning about how a chain stitch is constructed helped me better understand how to undo the stitch. As I learned about the construction I realized the stitch is similar to a crochet chain stitch, something I am familiar with making and taking out. I am very interested in learning more about the origin of the machine chainstitch- if there is a hand sewing stitch it is based on and if there were other stitches used in the beginning of machine stitching.

## Fairy Upcycle



I have learned always give yourself some breathing room and to allow for things to come up. Keeping to the first thing is best as i started with one project and ended with another

Researched how to upcycle items that would otherwise be tossed into the trash. Watched YouTube videos, used pinterest, read crafting websites.

Looked for recipes for clay that was not harmful to the earth and had ingredients that would already be in a kitchen. Product's I used in this where plastic bottles,jars,old tin foil,cereal box.

Baking soda 2 cups

Corn starch 1 cup

Water 1 ½ cups

Was what i used can be brought down to a clay if it gets wet and is unpainted.

Learning how to make clay and how it dries and what happens as it dries. It being to thin or thick can cause more cracks and realizing that a cooked clay can crack much easier than a none cooked. Clay could be something that you could spend years doing as life can make us adjust our plans as we go.Such as filling in cracks that have formed while drying.

As I worked I learned clay easy to cracked while in drying process and that it's very easy to forget life can toss you some curveballs. Like slicing you finger open if you try and rush the process and put to much on one's plate.

# How Can I Help?



**Carol Palmer**

## **Research Process:**

Noticing the different ways I help people and making collages of the foods and homework.

## **Product Description:**

I made collages of the foods I buy and the homework I help with. It was hard to find all the foods. I have a lot of pages.

## **Topic:**

The different ways I help people get food and do math

## **Statement of learning and next steps:**

I know the ways I help Lorrie and I know the ways I help Joanna. I am going to start helping Joanna with math.