**Close-up on Cancer**

**Elizabeth Madison**

**Objective:**

Students are expected to first learn about cancer in general. Then, they will research a loved one's specific type of cancer in detail. They will be asked to find valid, reliable websites with up-to-date information. In the final phase of the project, they will write a 1-2 page narrative paper about their specific person. This will include medical information, as well as how each person dealt with their cancer psychologically. Students will share their papers via google docs, ans ask for comments and questions from classmates.

**Standards addressed:**

Anchor 8 - writing     Anchor 7 - reading

Day One: After they have brainstormed about their specific person, students will be given a set of guided questions to answer as they research cancer on the web. The questions will deal with the origins, triggers, treatments, and diagnosis of cancers.

Day Two: There is discussion of the guided questions, and as new questions arise, we write them on poster board to try to answer later. Students begin researching their person's specific cancer using dual column notes.

Day Three: We begin organizing notes and sharing any stumbling blocks that have come up. Students must site all web sources and write how they determined each site to be valid.

Day Four: Rough draft of the paper is begun after completing an outline that has been handed out ahead of time. On google docs, students share each others' rough drafts, and make constructive comments to each other. The final draft is homework.

As a wrap-up, we look at pictures that the students have brought in of their loved ones who have had or have cancer. We share stories and read each others' final drafts. We also attempt as a class, to answer the questions raised from Day Two.