**Mental Illness Project**

**PURPOSE:** To use your knowledge, as well as research new & supporting information, of mental illness to create a realistically useful informational poster. The final product will offer significant information to your peers about the aspects of a specific illness.

**Directions:**

* Students will choose or be assigned a partner.
* Students will randomly choose a somewhat common mental disorder out of a pile of cards. This will be the illness they will be researching.
* Examples include: Addiction, Personality disorders, Anxiety disorders, Eating disorders, Dementia, S.A.D., Bipolar disorder, Schizophrenia, Post-Tramaumatic Stress disorder, Panic disorder, Major Depression, O-C-D, dissociative disorder, Dysthymia, Phobias, Autism, Teenage Depression, Tourettes, Antisocial Behavior disorder, etc…
* Students will research the mental disorder they were assigned by answering the Mental Illness Research Questions (to be turned in).
* Students will then make an informational presentation about the mental illness they researched. You may use google slides, powerpoint, prezi, or another form of presentation type approved by me.
* Students will present their presentations to the class
* As partners are sharing, peers will fill out the Mental Illness notes sheet.
* Research Questions and presentations are graded according to class rubric.

Mental Illness Research Questions

*\* You may answer the questions on another sheet of paper if you do not have room for your answers.*

1. What **illness** are you researching?
2. What is the **definition** of your disorder? What might be physical/noticeable characteristics of this disorder?

Source-

1. What are potential **risk factors** that may lead to this illness – “causes” of the illness? Are there certain “types” of people who are prone to this illness; if so, why?

Source-

1. What are **prevention** suggestions and strategies pertaining to this illness? (*Hint*: Look at risk factors/causes, can you prevent the severity of the disorder, can you prolong the age of onset, etc.)

Source-

1. What are the common **warning signs/symptoms** that may lead you to believe someone may be suffering from this disorder?

Source-

1. How is this illness specifically **treated** (medication name, symptoms treated, etc.)? Is it curable? How?

Source-

1. What is the **science** behind this illness? What does the research say about the physiology or the psychology of this disorder – what’s going on inside the body to cause this?

Source-

1. How can you **help a friend** who may be suffering from this disorder? Is there a way to “help” yourself?

Source-

1. List at least 5 **statistics** pertaining to your illness. (National, state, city, school, etc., how many people this illness affects, teenage stats vs. adult stats, men vs. women, differences between races, etc.)

Source-

1. What are common **myths** and the respective **facts** pertaining to your disorder?

Source-

1. List four or more **specific** **resources** that could help in dealing with this disorder (National resources such as organizations, hotlines, websites, etc., as well as community resources such as local support groups, organizations, specific counselors/trusted adults in the area, medical personnel, etc.)

Source-

1. Other? Have you discovered any other **important or interesting facts**? Facts about the history of the illness or the medication used to treat it, famous people who suffer from the illness, etc.

Source-