

# **CMS Eagle Program Project RED**

## **Essential questions stem from:**

1. **Topic selection** – Students will address a topic that interests them and is adversely affecting a community on a local, national, or global scale.
2. **Action plans** allow students to organize their thoughts on problem solving within a specified community. Following steps that identify why the topic was selected to listing possible causes of the problem allow students to describe their first steps towards solving the issue.
3. **Essential questions** promote critical thinking when conducting problem related research. They should result in original answers, not those that are predetermined. A year of research and community research should stem from open-ended questions and eventually narrow into an original solution, or effect.



## Examples of Open-ended Questions

- How would you...?
- What would result if...?
- How would you describe...?
- How does...compare with...?
- What is the relationship between...?
- What would happen if...?
- How could you change...?
- How would you improve...?
- How do you feel about...?
- Why do you believe...?
- What is your opinion of...?
- What choice would you have made...?
- What would you do differently?
- Why do you feel...?
- How would you go about solving the problem...?
- If you were in this position what would you do?
- Why do you/don't you support...?
- What could improve...?



## **Types of Open-Ended Questions to try:**

- **How Questions?** – Require and implementation of research based solutions –  
“What are some sustainable solutions to environmental problems in your neighborhood, and how can they be implemented?”
- **Should Questions?** – make a moral or practical decision based on evidence –  
“Should we discontinue trade with countries who abuse human rights?”
  - **What if Questions?** – Are hypothetical and require proposition and experimentation of possible outcomes – “What if the Cultural Revolution never happened?”
- **Why Questions?** – ask you to understand a cause and effect sequence. Understand the relationship and develop a solution based on the issue at hand – “Why is the death rate higher in one Third World country than another?”

