**Food Fight! GMO Debate Project**

During this project, students will learn the science behind GMO’s and they will explore common questions and consequences related in their use. Our class will break up into debate teams to discuss and argue the positive and negative effects that genetically modified organisms can produce for our environment, society and human health. Each debate group will consist of no more than 3-4 individuals and we will have two debate subtopics to our “Food Fight” GMO Debate Project.

**Debate Rundown:**

Each Debate Topic will take a total of 10 minutes. Each group will have 3 minutes to introduce their opinion/viewpoint, 1 minute will be spent for each group to cross-examine each other (ask/answer questions) and finally each group will have 1 minute of closure in the debate. At the end of the debate the audience will vote on the topic and the willing group will receive extra credit towards the project. EVERY group must use AT LEAST 4 sources when researching and providing evidence during debate. Please create a word document and share your sources with me (avoid Wikipedia).

Debate Topics (group members and topics will be assigned):

1. **Grow/Use GMOs or Not?** (2 groups of 4)
   1. What are GMOs? Where do we find GMOs? Why are GMOs a good thing? Include detail for how it potentially could positively impacts society/human health/environment.
      1. Include evidence and examples
   2. What are GMOs? Where do we find GMOs? Why are GMOs a bad thing? Include detail for how it potentially could negatively impacts society/human health/environment.
      1. Include evidence and examples
2. **Some Use of GMOs Vs. No Use of GMOs** (2 groups of 3)
   1. Which GMOs are okay? Animals/Plants? Why? What is your reasoning? Why should there be a limit for the future? Justify your stance.
   2. Why is it NOT okay to use GMOs EVER? What is your reasoning? Please use research, or real-life evidence to support your stance.
3. **To Label or Not to Label?** (2 Groups of 4)
   1. What are the pros to labeling food products that contain GMOs for consumers? Why should companies be required to label their products?
      1. Include evidence and examples
   2. What are the cons to labeling food products that contain GMOs for consumers? Why shouldn’t companies be required to label their products?
      1. Include evidence and examples
4. **Monsanto: Trustworthy Company?** (2 Groups of 3 or 4)
   1. Who are they/ what do they specialize in?
   2. How are they related to GMOs?
   3. Examples of their influence
      1. What is their relationship with farmers?
      2. Trials?
   4. Are there other GMO companies?
5. **Should GMOs be patented?**  (2 Groups of 3)
   1. Pro Patents: Why SHOULD GMOs be protected by a patent? How far should these patents go? Should these patents protect from other businesses and research? How should breeching the patent be punished? Think about farmers.
   2. Con Patents: Why shouldn’t GMOs be protected by patents? Can you “patent” nature? Why is this an issue? How does this relate to those who want to do research on GMOs? Think about farmers.

Each person will be graded on their individual contribution as well as graded on how well their group did as a whole. You will be scored on your understanding of the topic, use of facts and statistics, **respect** for other teams and your team collaboration. See attached rubric for further details. We will vote at the end of each debate for both of the two subtopics and the winning groups will receive one point extra credit towards their project.