

The Five Whys Protocol - Example with 9th grader Luke McKinley
Topic: The Ocean

Teachers: What is your project about it?

Luke: The Ocean.

Teacher: Why the ocean?

Luke: Because it really interests me.

Teacher: Why is that?

Luke: I have always loved the ocean. I am a diver - I love diving.

Teacher: Why do you like diving?

Luke: Because I am able to explore things that not many people do not get to see. I visit a world that is so different and unique.

Teacher: What is it about being under water that intrigues you about the ocean? Why is that?

Luke: Everything down there is so beautiful and different.

Teacher: Why is it so different?

Luke: Different habitat, different world, for the most part untouched by humans, but that's changing.

Teacher: Why is that changing?

Luke: People have been careless, are destroying it through pollution, over fishing. It seems mainly humans are helping in the destruction of this habitat. I wonder if we can change what's happening?

Teacher: There is your essential question - How might we change what is happening to our oceans? Or Why change what is happening to our oceans?