The Dark Side of Style
by Aubrey Niegocki

Uniforms change the mindset of the normal eighteen-year-old boy. This uniform covers the boy's identity and makes him a part of a group

Multitasking
by Naja Thomas

If someone were doing a hard math problem while listening to music, she would be more likely to forget what she learned. She would also make more errors

Conformity
by Jack Halpain

When we are uncertain, we look to others for confirmation or acceptance. Typically, the more difficult the task, the greater the conformity

How to Spot a Lie
by Sophia Ferretti

When people lie, they show a number of signs. These signs can be anything from the way they talk, to the micro-expressions they subconsciously make with their faces

Why Do We Dream?
by Sierra Stratton

Allan Hobson and Robert McCarley came up with the activation-synthesis theory, which states that dreams are random and have no important meaning to them

The Paradox of Choice
by Mauro Chavez

The idea that more choice makes us happier is nothing more than a popular fallacy

Loss Aversion
by Nicolas Dante Dilliott

The emotional response from the brain concerning losses is much stronger than the response concerning gains

We Are the 37%
by Jessica Sloan

As a result of the false consensus effect, the protesters in the Occupy movement had a sense of exaggerated support for their beliefs and views

Affective Forecasting
by Eddie Ahunada

Our goal in life is to be happy. When our expectations are too high, we often become disappointed

Praise: The Double-Edged Sword
by Matt Hansen

Praise is a seemingly harmless way of recognizing an accomplishment, but in actuality it can be destructive

Enclothed Cognition
by Aubrey Niegocki

Scientific tests show that when people wear different clothes, they think differently

Gambler's Fallacy
by Ryan Khong

Gambler's fallacy is the notion that past outcomes in a game of chance will affect future outcomes

Psycarnival

Dan Wise, Humanities, High Tech High
Gary and Jerri-Ann Jacobs High Tech High

For this 10th Grade Humanities project, students studied the basics of psychology, reading various non-fiction texts and interacting with guest speakers, before choosing individual topics to explore in depth. Based on these topics, each student had to create an original (and ethical) experiment to perform on sixth-grade students, create and illustrate an explanatory handout so that the subjects would understand the concept that was tested, and write and illustrate an original article about the concept's real-world applications.

Teacher Reflection
I remember how excited I was to take a psychology course during my first year of college. The discipline tapped into my adolescent curiosity, and it supplemented so much of what I had learned in my "core classes" in high school. Similarly, my high school students loved any psychological concepts I discussed in my class. So, I decided to design a project with psychology at the core. The topics that they chose, such as conformity, stereotyping, multitasking, dreams, morality, motivation, and so on, made them reflect on their own lives and on content from other subject areas. Their experiments also allowed them to creatively play with the scientific method and learn about ethical experimentation.

Student Reflections
During the Psycarnival project, the class learned about psychology and how it relates to our lives and to current events. We put on a carnival in which we conducted experiments that we created. We then collected data from our experiments and analyzed them. I looked into different mindsets and how they affect people's motivations. I came to school every day excited to work. I learned a lot about mindsets and Carol Dweck's theory of how they affect people's motivation.
—*Matthew Hansen*

I researched a psychological theory called the Paradox of Choice. It sheds light on the issues we face when trying to pick one option from a group of many choices. To study this topic, I read a book written by Barry Schwarrz, the creator of the theory and took notes on his TED talks. In the end, I was left with very useful information that I get to apply to my own life
—*Mauro Chavez*