









## Tales and Test Tubes: Fostering Future Scientists through Stories

Joaquín Ramírez Ramírez Twelfth Grade PrepaTec

The high school students co-created a children's science story with kids from an elementary school from their community. They got inspiration from reading published children's books, interviewing a local scientist, and doing their own experiments. The kids contributed with the definition of the topic and first drafts of the story and some of the illustrations. The high school students were in charge of developing the story, including the scientific concepts and making it bilingual. The students learned how to communicate a scientific concept through a story that engages a young audience. They learned how to collaborate with their readers (the elementary kids) and to design a digital and physical book to share with the public. The project concluded with an exhibition of the books with the kids and their families.

## **Teacher Reflection**

From this project I learned that the high school students value a lot that their products have an impact outside the classroom and that they have an authentic audience. Approaching science through different perspectives (art, stories, research...), gives the students multiple opportunities to connect with the content of the subject. In a next iteration, I would like to explore the possibility of inviting local and national editors and publishers as experts and audience of the books, so the stakes of the project increase and the students engage in more high quality work.

—Joaquin

## **Student Reflection**

I liked a lot writing and drawing a story with characters that we created. I went all out with my creativity, and I am proud of it.

—Anabel G.



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