I currently teach physical science at the middle school level, mostly to remedial students, so I don't have any specific health-related projects. Next year I will need to add life science due to the change in science standards, so I am excited to be exposed to best practices from other teachers.

One project that I do that would apply in any area is related to vocabulary. I take a list of vocabulary words and have the students display in some way that they understand what the word means. They can cut pictures from magazines, make a power point, draw pictures, make a movie, bring in examples to present to the class, or any other idea they have as long as they can show that they can use the word on a practical level. If they provide pictures, they also have to include an explanation of why their picture is an illustration of the vocabulary word. The only thing I don't accept is dictionary definitions of the words.

My students recently completed this project showing understanding of such terms as potential and kinetic energy, physical properties, change of state, and chemical change.

Deborah McKeeman
Celebration School