



BREAKTHROUGH VIDEO DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Changing the World with Teen Innovator Jack Andraka

1. Teen inventor Jack Andraka made changing cancer diagnostics a major goal of his at only age 13. Knowing he'd need vast amounts of knowledge about biology and cancer, Jack dedicated hours upon hours to reading up on cancer and cancer diagnostics. He made changing the way the world sees cancer detection his passion project. If you had the time and resources to devote to becoming an expert in one field what would it be? Why?
2. Before Jack had the chance to develop his life saving technology, he faced 199 rejections from multiple labs at which he had hoped to do research. Not giving up is an important part of any creative and scientific process. Give an example where you faced adversity but overcame?
3. Jack was brutally harassed when he was in middle school, but he did not let the harassment control him. Instead, he poured all of his energy into his passion for science. What are some healthy ways you can channel negative energy when things are not going so well?

STEM Read and SmartSpace@NIU are part of Northern Illinois University's STEAM Works Initiative.

