

SURVIVAL

What is the single most important factor of survival or attribute of a survivor?

Novitas Academy students enjoyed this Project Based Learning lesson on survival. They first studied Aron Ralston.



Aron Ralston is the young man that had to cut off his forearm to free himself from a dislodged boulder in a Utah canyon in 2003. He was “canyoneering” — making his way down a narrow canyon — at the time. After five days with little food and water, he broke his arm and then amputated it with a knife to escape.

This man has **grit!** The students agreed that there are all kinds of different situations that an individual may be faced with for survival. There are risks from natural catastrophe’s, personal loss, terrorists, and accidents, just to name a few. To answer my question.... they all take some level of GRIT to survive.

The Novitas students put together survival kits and research based reports on survival situations for their own regions. Now one great thing about Novitas Academy and Project Based Learning is that some students are at an intermediate level and some at an advanced level. Meaning that expectations are always high but at an individual learning ability. Therefore, they are always encouraged to push themselves no matter what level they are at!

With Project Based Learning, the students really process and become involved with their class studies. The students had a lot of fun putting together their reports and survival kits. Some pretty funny items did show up in their survival kits though, but who can argue with a box of Snickers?!

Located in Emmett, Idaho on 30 acres of majestic river front property, Novitas Academy is a unique therapeutic boarding school for boys ages 14-18 and grades 9-12 accredited by AdvancED. Novitas is a relationship-based program that strives to help our students build their self-esteem and self-confidence through discovering and nurturing their strengths, passions, and dreams.