

On April 26, 1986, the Soviet Union created the Chernobyl reactor to advance in the nuclear energy industry. Due to a lack of building protocols, Chernobyl's faulty reactor exploded, leaving millions exposed to deadly radiation, causing a global debate on the safety of nuclear energy. Through international diplomacy talks, the International Atomic Energy Association created safety precautions in nuclear power plants to prevent disaster. We chose my topic when we were sharing ideas as a class and someone said Chernobyl and it just seemed like a good topic to do a project on. Our topic is important because without Chernobyl and the protests after Chernobyl, nuclear energy today may have been a lot more dangerous. Because if there had not been protests, the government would not have seen it as that big of a deal. Something that would never happen again.

A lot of our research was done online simply because there were plenty of sources and it was the easiest to access from our classroom. Most of our sources were either websites or videos because they were easy to find and there were a lot of them, but because we went to the library, we had a few books as sources. We went to the Minneapolis Public Library and there we found a government document that gave us good info on the disaster part but nothing on the debate aspect. Most of our debate came from our online sources. Understanding of Chernobyl has changed a lot over the last few months, if you asked our group at the beginning of the year what Chernobyl was we could have told you it was a bad nuclear disaster that was in Ukraine, but now after a lot of research, we know so much more about my topic.

As we said in paragraph one, we decided on our topic because someone in class said it and it sounded like a good idea. We chose a website because it seemed like the best way to express all we knew about Chernobyl. We built our website by having each person do the pages they did in the script first and then they helped out where they could. Some skills we learned

were how to make a website and how to focus and get work done. We also learned that if you work hard and get things done, you can create awesome things.

Chernobyl relates to the theme because the protests were debates and those protests sparked international diplomacy to discuss whether nuclear energy is safe. It is also a failure because a lot of people were hurt or killed because of Chernobyl and radiation poisoning. Chernobyl overall was a big failure for many reasons, but from that failure, some success arose, such as now because of Chernobyl, nuclear energy is safer than it was before. We think Chernobyl was an important event in history because it made nuclear energy safer and was a factor in the fall of the Soviet Union, changing history forever.