Rationale

a. A rationale for the instructional choices and format or any other considerations you made.

I chose to use this rap about the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) because the second I saw it I fell in love with it! I read the entire chapter on the LHC in Brian Clegg’s “Armageddon Science” and the topic was still very dense and confusing. This video, however, does a phenomenal job at explaining what the LHC is and what it does, as well as provides the students watching it with a lot of video of the insides of the facility. I also liked the fact that the words are presented at the bottom of the screen so the students can follow along and read as the rap goes on. Overall this is just a fun learning object, and I think having fun while learning is super effective.

b. The manner in which you will assess your students’ understanding related to your object.

I could probably have them write an exit ticket and ask what they learned about the LHC and how scientists on international endeavors work together to achieve such incredible feats. There is a lot of science in this rap, and I’d rather them be focusing on how this is relevant to mankind and the history of the 21st century. Another fun authentic assessment that I could employ would be for them to make their own rap and even video. Students could display knowledge of content, skills in writing, and other auxiliary skills like video production and music creation.

c. Explain how the learning object will be used, re-used, repurposed, easily “discoverable,” accessible, and durable.

This learning object will be used in my social studies classroom to discuss current events and even international politics and collaborations. I think using the LHC at CERN is a great example of how mankind can come together and achieve extremely advanced work. It can be re-used in science classrooms and even have different departments in school collaborate, much like the scientists in the video! The world history teachers could study the history of the science, the science teachers can teach the physics and concepts behind the LHC, and the English teachers could assign a paper for students to write about the LHC or other similar scientific subjects. There is a lot of potential for this subject to be used. It is easily discoverable because it is on YouTube, and a simple link can take anyone in the world to this fabulous learning object.

d. How you plan to connect your learning object to students, other ideas, or complementary learning objects.

I plan to connect this to other learning object by providing complementary readings that would follow along with the rap. There is ongoing research and debate that is very relevant and current about the LHC. Some people think the LHC is going to cause a black hole and tear the world apart from the innards, and Clegg’s book sought to refute those bogus claims. Students could form committees and debate the topic by doing research on their own.