

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- Do** suggest projects that you think your child will be successful completing based on interests, background information and/or materials that are readily available.
- **Do** help your child gather research materials, and any supplies needed for completion of project.
- Do** help monitor your child's progress; ask frequent questions regarding completion of project.
- Do** help arrange interviews and help transport completed projects to school.
- Do** help proofread all written components.
- Do NOT** write or edit the project for your child.

****DO NOT do any work your child is able to do independently.**

STANDARDS ADDRESSED: standards addressed during the social studies fair process are not limited to, but include:

- ❖ SS.Inq1.a.m Formulate open-ended questions for further research within one of the social studies disciplines.
- ❖ SS.Inq1.b.m Identify additional questions that support the research and possible resources to guide the inquiry.
- ❖ SS.Inq2.a.m Explore evidence from multiple reliable sources representing a range of perspectives and media that have been selected through research to guide the inquiry..
- ❖ SS.Inq2.b.m Determine credibility and applicability of a source by considering a variety of factors through the lens of a social studies strand.
- ❖ SS.Inq4.a.m Communicate conclusions using a variety of media (i.e. video or online, documentaries, exhibits, research papers, or web pages).
- ❖ SS.Inq4.b.m Analyze and evaluate the logic, relevance, and accuracy of others' claims, taking into consideration potential bias.
- ❖ SS.Geog1.b.m Interpret patterns in a variety of maps, charts, and graphs to display geographic information (contour, cartogram, population, natural resources, historical maps) and explain the relationships among them.
- ❖ SS.Geog1.c.m Construct a mental map of regions, and locate the major regions of the world and their physical and cultural features including continents, cities, countries, bodies of water, landforms, mountain ranges and climate zones.
- ❖ Analyze the distribution of population patterns at various scales (i.e., local, state, country, region).
- ❖ SS.Hist1.a.m Use multiple perspectives to analyze and explain issues or events within and across time periods, events, or cultures.
- ❖ SS.Hist2.b.m Explain patterns of change over time in the community, the state, the United States, and the world.

SELECTING A TOPIC: The most important part of preparing for a social studies fair is choosing the perfect topic. Select a topic that is included within the larger grade level subject and is of high interest to you. See examples below:

6th Grade: World Cultures: People, Places, or Country of Choice

- Attila the Hun
- The Great Wall of China
- The Country of Ethiopia
- The Island of Dubai

7th and 8th: United States History: People, Places, or Icons (including pop culture)

- The Legos Legacy
- The Life of Martin Luther King Jr.
- Major Battles of the Civil War
- The Life of Princess Diana of Wales
- The History of Rap Music

PREPARING THE PRESENTATION BOARD: Creating a visually appealing and professional looking board takes a little planning and preparation. Use these helpful hints to ensure a fantastic presentation display.

- Minimum size is 22" x 40" and no larger than 48" x 60"
- Organization: Create a rough draft: draw out a plan that uses the materials you have gathered. Keep in mind that an orderly arrangement will bring unity to your work and help you stay organized.
- Lettering: All lettering should be double checked for spelling and grammar errors and should be neatly drawn or computer generated. All text should be able to be read from a distance of two feet.
- Rhythm or flow: An orderly progression is important to effective composition. We read from left to right so think of that when arranging the materials on your presentation board.
- Contrast: color should be used whenever possible to create an attractive board that is easy to read. Use construction paper behind your pictures, graphs, and text boxes to give them a framed look.

PREPARING FOR THE ORAL REPORT: Communicating what was learned throughout the project is one of the key pieces of a successful social studies fair. The reminders listed below can help when preparing your oral report.

- Do write down key facts on notecards.
- Do rehearse many times
- Do dress the part: Dress in a way that will enhance your project. For example, If your project is on the history of Disney World, wear your Mickey Mouse ears and Donald Duck shirt!

Grading Criteria for Social Studies Fair Projects Grade 6,7, 8

A: The project meets or exceeds expectations in most categories. There is a confidence in the finished product.

B: The project meets, and occasionally exceeds the basic requirements of the assignment.

C: The project occasionally meets the basic requirements and rarely exceeds them. There are problems with organization, grammar, paragraph construction, and/or oral presentation.

D: The project meets the requirements of the assignment in very few categories. The message is unorganized and/or there are major problems in the mechanics of writing, and presentation.

+ = exceeds requirements

✓ = meets requirements

- = does not meet requirements

Name

PICK A COUNTRY

Title (2pts)

_____ Clear, attractive and appropriate

_____ Student name and grade are clearly evident and positioned correctly

Physical and Political Geography (8pts)

_____ Map of country with capital, and flag

_____ Population, major languages listed

_____ Major landforms /waterways identified

_____ Climate (map)

Government and Economy (5pts)

_____ Current Leader name and brief description

_____ Currency name and picture

_____ Value of currency compared to the United States

Religion (5pts)

_____ Major religions listed

_____ Major religious holidays/celebrations with brief description

History and Timeline (10pts)

_____ Details of three major events from history that have impacted the country

_____ Timeline showing the events in chronological order compared to three other events in world history

Food and Sports (5pts)

_____ List and describe two traditional ethnic foods of the country with picture or sample

_____ List and describe two popular sports played in the country with picture

Display Area (10pts)

- _____ Additional items to enhance the display are present (clothing, coins, photographs, food, art, etc.)
- _____ Presentation board and display area are attractive, easy to read, and are organized
- _____ Presentation board written components are free from grammar and/or spelling errors

Resources (10 pts.)

- _____ At least 4 resources used
- _____ Facts presented have been cross-checked for accuracy
- _____ All resources have been cited correctly on a Google document and are displayed with the presentation board

Oral Presentation (15pts. possible)

- _____ Presentation was delivered with confidence and professionalism-all requirements have been met
- _____ Credit is given to those who have helped.
- _____ Knowledge gained throughout project was evident
- _____ Student was able to answer questions about the project correctly

_____ /70 pts.

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PERSON

Title (2pts. possible)

_____ Clear, attractive and appropriate

Early life (10 pts.)

_____ Birthplace Information (Location, date)

_____ Early Life (family, siblings, parents, etc.)

_____ Education

_____ Social Activities (friends, clubs, etc.)

_____ Important Events that shaped his/her life

Adult Life (5pts.)

_____ Influences

_____ Hardships or obstacles overcome

_____ Quote with explanation

History and Timeline (10pts)

_____ Three specific achievements are listed with dates on a timeline

_____ Timeline shows the events in chronological order compared to three other events in world history

Achievements/Impact on the World-So What? (4pts)

_____ Details of the events listed on the timeline are given

_____ Why are the achievements significant?

Lessons Learned (4 pts.)

_____ Why did you choose the person?

_____ What have you learned throughout the project?

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EVENT, ICON, POP CULTURE

Title (2pts. possible)

_____ Clear, attractive and appropriate

Who? (6 pts.)

_____ List and describe the major players involved in the event/icon with images

What and Where (8pts)

_____ Clearly describe the topic

_____ Locations of where the icon was founded or where the event took place

_____ Relevant map showing important details is included

When-History and Timeline (10pts)

_____ Three specific achievements are listed with dates on a timeline

_____ Timeline shows the events in chronological order compared to three other events in world history

Why and How (5pts)

_____ Why is the event or icon important?

_____ How did the event or icon impact the country?

_____ Evidence of the impact as a visual aid

Lessons Learned (4 pts.)

_____ Why did you choose the topic?

_____ What have you learned throughout the project

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TIMETABLE FOR SOCIAL STUDIES FAIR

WEEK 1 – January 20 – 26

- __ Pick a topic to investigate
- __ Begin designing/gathering display components and visual aids
- __ Begin researching and citing sources

WEEK 2 – January 27 – February 2

- __ Continue to design/gather visual aids and artifacts
- __ Complete research
- __ Conduct interviews (if applicable)

WEEK 3 – February 3 – 9

- __ Continue collecting items for display

WEEK 4 – February 10 – 16

- __ Finish gathering items for display
- __ Complete lettering for display and assemble presentation board
- __ Prepare oral report

WEEK 5 –

- __ February 18: Bring and set up display at school
- __ February 19: Oral presentations and grading
- __ February 20: Displays available for viewing during conferences
- __ February 24: Tear down and take home presentation materials