

Year End Choice Project

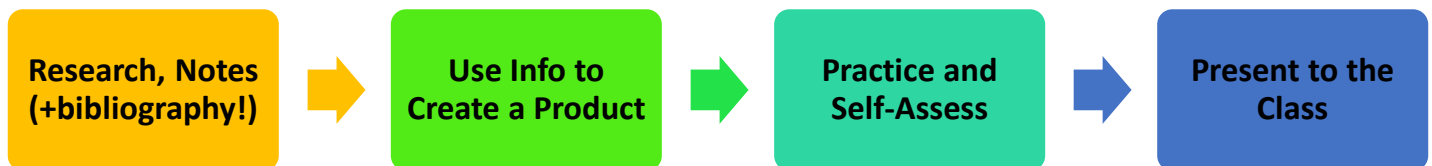
Why are we doing this?

Inquiry and research skills form a large part of the learning outcomes for Social Studies 8. It is essential for you to be able to look up information, summarize information, use that information to form opinions or answer questions, and present that information in some way. I also believe that it is important that you have a chance to explore topics that are of interest to you!



Description

This project is your opportunity to explore a civilization and topic of your choice. You do not have to research everything about an entire civilization- you may choose to focus on one aspect of it (e.g. philosophy in Early China, or scientific developments in the Arab World). As with our other projects, you have a choice for how you want to represent your learning, but you must present your product to the class orally.



What you will complete and hand in: (see attached rubric for the criteria)

- Research notes (any format you choose- typed or written)
- Product (PowerPoint, visual art, performing art, written work, etc...)
- Bibliography (properly formatted in alphabetical order and APA style)
- Quiz Questions (at least 4 for your classmates to complete after presentation)
- Oral Presentation
- Peer Assessment
- Self Assessment

Product Ideas

Depending on what your topic is, some of these may work better than others to present your information:

- PowerPoint/Prezi
- Poster
- Artwork
- Story
- Song/rap
- Role play/skit
- Video
- Popplet
- Collage
- Poem
- News interview
- Infographic
- Newspaper article
- Brochure
- Web/mind-map

Topic Ideas

Your textbook is a great starting point for an overview of topics and some key information. Once you narrow down your topic, you can use the internet to research it in more depth. THESE ARE JUST IDEAS- feel free to choose others.

China

- The Shang Dynasty
- The Zhou Dynasty
- Chinese philosophy (Confucianism, legalism, Daoism)
- The Qin Dynasty
- The Han Dynasty
- The Tang Dynasty
- Inventions of the Chinese
- The Song Dynasty (Renaissance in China)
- The Ming Dynasty
- Chinese Art/Literature

Medieval Japan

- Medieval Japanese Art/Literature
- Heian Japan
- The Samurai
- Feudalism in Japan
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Exploration

- Ships & Navigation
- The Portuguese Explorers
- The Spanish Explorers
- The Conquistadors

Islamic Spain & Ottoman Empire

- Spain under the Umayyad Caliphate
- Southern Spain & Reconquista
- The Spanish Inquisition
- The Ottoman Empire

The Arab World

- The Abbasids
- Art/Architecture/Scientific Developments

Africa

- The Peoples of Africa (p.373-379)
- African Creation Myths
- The Historical Development of Africa (p.380)
- The Slave Trade in West Africa
- The Bantu Peoples

The Renaissance in Europe

- Florence & Venice
- The Medici family
- Renaissance thought
- Renaissance Art
- The Scientific Revolution (Galileo, Copernicus)

Emergence of the Nation State

- The Protestant Reformation
- The Tudors & Henry VIII
- England under Elizabeth I

India

- The Gupta Empire
- The Muslim Conquest of India

Oral Presentation: Peer Assessment

Before you present your project to the class, you are required to practice with a partner, or a small group. You must have them fill out this peer assessment form and give you feedback about what you did well and what you can improve on.

Names: _____ evaluating _____

Criteria:	Very Good	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement
Gave an interesting introduction			
Presented clear explanation			
Used complete sentences			
Spoke clearly and confidently			
Spoke at a good volume			
Made eye contact with me			
Used visual aids well			

Comments: (Two things that they did well and one or two things they need to work on...)

Self-Assessment Checklist & Reflection

If you check "no," for any of these, you are not ready to hand your project in!

PROCESS	YES	NO
I have completed Research Notes on my topic.		
I have rehearsed my presentation for a classmate and had them fill in the peer assessment sheet.		
PRODUCT	YES	NO
The product that I have created answers my research question.		
The product contains accurate information.		
The product that I have created presents the information in a creative and engaging way.		
My presentation of the information (visual/oral/written) is organized and can be easily understood.		
I have included at least 4 quiz questions on a handout/PowerPoint slide.		
SOURCES	YES	NO
I have included a bibliography with at least 3 different sources.		
My sources are cited in APA style, and are in alphabetical order.		

1. Rate the effort that you feel you put in to this project:

1	2	3	4
I did not try at all	I put in some effort	I put in average effort	I put in a lot of effort

2. Something that I think I did really well on is:

3. If I did this project again, something that I think I could have improved on or done differently is:

4. What was the hardest part of this project?

Year End Choice Project: Rubric

	Minimally Meeting	Meeting	Fully Meeting
Research /10 marks	Has completed research notes, but they may not be organized, and contain some, but not enough information about their topic.	Has completed research notes that are well-organized and contain relevant information about their topic.	Has completed research notes that are thorough, highly organized, and contain relevant information and details about their topic.
Product /20 marks	Presents information in a way that is understood, but lacks organization and is not overly engaging or interesting. The product shows some understanding of the content.	Presents information in an engaging and interesting way. The information is fairly organized and understood. The product shows sufficient understanding of the content.	Presents information in an engaging and interesting way. The information is organized well and can be easily understood. The product shows creativity and a deep understanding of the content.
Oral Presentation /20 marks	The student lacks enthusiasm or positive feelings about the topic. Their voice is quiet, and audience members may have difficulty hearing the presentation. They display minimal eye contact with audience, while reading mostly from their notes. Displays mild tension and has trouble recovering from mistakes. Audience has difficulty following presentation because it seems to “jump around.”	The student occasionally shows enthusiasm and positive feelings about the topic. Their voice is clear, and mostly at the appropriate volume so that audience members can hear. They use frequent eye contact, but still return to their notes quite often. Student makes minor mistakes, but recovers from them and displays little tension. They present information in a logical sequence which the audience can follow.	The student presents with enthusiasm by demonstrating strong positive feelings about the topic. They use a clear voice and appropriate volume so that all audience members can hear. They use frequent eye contact, occasionally looking at notes. Student seems relaxed and self-confident. They present information in a logical and interesting sequence, which the audience can follow.
Sources /5 marks	Has used one or two sources. Some sources are cited in a bibliography, but may not be formatted properly (not in alphabetical order, not APA style).	Has used at least three sources. All sources are cited in a bibliography that is formatted properly (alphabetical order, APA style citations).	Has used three or more sources. All sources are cited in a bibliography that is formatted properly (alphabetical order, APA style citations).
Completion of all Components /5 marks	Has minimally completed: - Research Notes - Product - Oral Presentation - Bibliography - Peer Assessment - Self-Assessment	Has satisfactorily completed: - Research Notes - Product - Oral Presentation - Bibliography - Peer Assessment - Self-Assessment	Has thoroughly completed: - Research Notes - Product - Oral Presentation - Bibliography - Peer Assessment - Self-Assessment

Comments:

Total = /60