

National History Student Workbook

2014-15



Conyers Middle School

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Social Studies Teacher: _____

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Project Overview

- Students in grades 6-8 will complete a National History Day project.
- Students in grades 6-8 compete in the National History Day Junior Division. (Students in grades 9-12 compete in the Senior Division.)
- National History Day projects replace projects traditionally completed for Social Studies Fair.
- National History Day projects can be completed individually or in small groups of 2-5 students.
- Projects must represent the current year's National History Day theme.
- Project formats include a written historical paper, a dramatic performance, creation of a website, a museum-quality exhibit, and video-taped documentary.
- Each project format has its own requirements. (See the National History Day Rule Book)
- A process paper of 500 or fewer words about how you conducted your research and completed your project is required for dramatic performance, website, exhibit, and documentary project formats. (See the National History Day Rule Book)
- You have the opportunity to compete on the regional, state, and national levels.
- The national competition held in College Park, Maryland at the University of Maryland.
- You will complete most of the work for your project at home, however, some class time will be spent to help you complete your project.

Choosing a Project Format

Project formats include a written historical paper, a dramatic performance, creation of a website, a museum-quality exhibit, and video-taped documentary. See pages 20-35 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information about choosing a project format and the requirements for the chosen format.

Project Timeline

Due Dates

These dates are subject to change.

Project Brainstorming Page	Friday, October 17, 2014
Final Project Topic Page	Friday, October 24, 2014
Project Research Sources	Friday, November 14, 2014
Process Paper Rough Draft	Friday, November 21, 2014
Final Project Due	Monday, December 1, 2014
Regional National History Day Competition	Saturday, March 7, 2014
National History Day Competition	June 14-18, 2015

This Year's Project Theme

Sample Project Ideas

Project Brainstorming Page

Write down your top 5 project ideas.

Due Date: _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Final Project Topic

Due Date: _____

The topic that I will research for my National History Day project is:

I want to research this topic because:

The resources that I would like to use to complete my project are:

The project format that I plan to use to complete my project is: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Teacher Feedback

Your final project topic is:

Approved Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____

Not Approved. Please see the comments below and resubmit your final project topic.

Teacher Comments: _____

Conducting Research & Citing Sources

Research for your National History Day project your research must be completed by you or you and your group members if you are working in a small group. You must use at least 5 different sources of information to complete your research. Sources you can use to complete your research books, websites, and encyclopedias, as well as primary and secondary source documents.

When you complete your research it is very important to write down information about your source so that you can properly cite your research source and give credit to the original author or authors of the source. Use the guide below determine what information you need to write down for your source in order to properly cite it. See page 18 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information.

When using **WEBSITES**, write down this information in order to properly cite your source:

- Website Address (the entire website)
- Date the Website was Accessed (Visited)
- Website Author(s)

This information is often found at the bottom of the website's home page.

When using **BOOKS**, write down this information in order to properly cite your source:

- Book Title
- Book Author(s)
- Publisher
- City and State of Publication
- Year of Publication
- Volume Number (If using an encyclopedia)
- Page Number(s)

This information is often found on the page behind the book's title page at the front of the book.

When using **NEWSPAPERS OR MAGAZINES**, write down this information in order to properly cite your source:

- Article Title
- Magazine or Newspaper Name
- Article Author(s)
- Date of Publication
- Volume Number
- Issue Number
- Page Number(s)

This information is often found in the front of a magazine.

Using websites, such as Citation Machine (www.citationmachine.net) can help you properly format your research source for citation.

When conducting your research it is important that you take notes. Your notes must be in your own words. Plagiarism or copying information word-for-word, even if the source is cited, will result in a grade of zero (0) and your project will be disqualified from competition on any level.

Primary Source Documents

See pages 5-6 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information about primary sources.

Secondary Source Documents

See pages 5-6 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information about primary sources.

Annotated Bibliography

See page 18 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information about completing your annotated bibliography.

Process Paper

A process paper of 500 or fewer words about how you conducted your research and completed your project is required for dramatic performance, website, exhibit, and documentary project formats. The process paper is not required if you choose to complete the written paper for your project format. See page 18-22 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information about the required components to complete your process paper.

How Your Project Will Be Judged

See pages 36-40 in the National History Day Rule Book for more information about how your project will be judged.