

4th Grade Summer Journey Project

Theme: *Exploration*

Materials Needed: composition notebook, posterboard, map pencils, markers, open mind :)

Guiding Questions:

- Why is exploration important to the history of mankind?
- How do explorers contribute to people's knowledge of the world?
- What are some character traits of successful explorers?
- What ideas and discoveries have made exploration possible?
- How has exploration changed throughout history? Why?
- What role has technology played in the evolution of exploration?
- Are humans finished exploring? How do you know?

Your Mission:

To boldly go and explore new frontiers, documenting your journey for future generations of 4th graders.

Main Products:

Exploration Journal: a personal summer diary, complete with photographs/illustrations of yourself and your discoveries on your journey; detailed entry paragraphs which include: dates, descriptions of events, discoveries, observations (sights, sounds, smells, etc.), as well as emotional responses to those events and discoveries. *(you will need: composition notebook)*

Map: detailed, illustrated diagram of your summer journey. Your map must include: a title, compass rose, a legend/key, as well as "pins" of locations throughout your journey. The map must be in color and may be annotated (examine similar maps, such as ones you would have for a zoo, Six Flags, etc.). BE CREATIVE! This map does NOT need to be to scale-that means you do not need to worry about sizes of objects on your map.
(you will need: poster board)

Definitions:

Frontier - "Going where no man, or woman, has gone before": an unfamiliar area, wilderness, point of view.

Example: Exploring a new park, a new way of viewing others, challenging your own fears.

Journey - The actual process of traveling from one place to another

How did you get there?

Physically by car, bike, walking, etc...

Where did your travels take you? What obstacles did you have to overcome?

Emotionally: How did you challenge your fears? What motivated you to "take the chance"? Did you conquer your fears?

Did your current views or opinions of others change? In what way?

Exploration- the action of traveling in or through an unfamiliar area in order to learn more about it. *Pay attention to specific details such as: sights, sounds, smells, tastes, feelings, thoughts, reactions of self and others.*

Checklist and Rubric

Project Deadline: Monday, August 24, 2015

Late Submissions are subject to (-10 pt) penalties for each day late

Exploration Journal:

The journal cover is decorated according to the theme	___/5 pts
The journal cover is properly titled	___/2.5 pts
The journal cover contains the explorer's name	___/2.5 pts
The journal has at least 10 entries	___/10 pts
Each journal entry is dated	___/10 pts
Each journal entry has a photo and/or detailed illustration	___/10 pts
Every entry is neatly written and easy to read	___/10 pts
All journal entries contain accurate spelling, punctuation, and capitalization	___/10 pts
Each journal entry is at least one paragraph (5-7 sentences)	___/40 pts

Total ___/100 pts

Exploration Map:

The map is appropriately and creatively titled	___/5 pts
The map is labeled with the explorer's name	___/5 pts
The map contains an accurate legend/key	___/5 pts
The map contains a decorative compass rose, labeled NSEW	___/5 pts
Journey locations (at least 10 "pins") are labeled clearly and neatly	___/20 pts
Map construction demonstrates thoughtfulness, creativity, and effort	___/30 pts
The map is neat, attractive, and colorful	___/30 pts

Total ___/100 pts

Please Note: The bulk of points scored reflects a HIGH LEVEL of QUALITY work, not just content. As 4th grade teachers, we put strong emphasis on individual effort and creativity in everything we do. While accurate academic information is important, personal attention to detail and thoughtful, intentional habits simultaneously create life-long work ethic in our students.

