

Literacy Social Studies Science No Prep

Engaging Research Activity for Students

THE Anything Project

Step by Step Instructions
Print and Go!

A student interest led research
assignment for grades 3-6



INCLUDES:

- Detailed *step-by-step* directions for a great research paper with a visual aid
- Examples for Each Step
- Teacher rubric with student checklist

Created By
J's Creative
Concoctions

Name: _____

The ANYTHING Project

Step 1: BRAINSTORM AND PICK TOPIC FOR RESEARCH

Directions: List topics you are interested in researching. Pick at least three school appropriate ideas that you can research. You must come up with three, as topics cannot be repeated amongst classmates.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

My topic is _____.

Step 2: ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR TOPIC TO TARGET YOUR RESEARCH.

Directions: In this stage, you should work to think of and write down questions that you want to answer about the research topic you have selected. This will keep you focused and on track when you are looking for information. You will try to find the answers to these questions when you do your research.

Example Questions: If I was reporting on Susan B. Anthony and her attitude towards women's rights: Who was Susan B. Anthony? Where and when was she born? What was her childhood like? When were important moments that changed her life? What were the attitudes and laws regarding women during her lifetime? How did her actions affect women's rights?

Try to use questioning words like who, what, where, when, why, and how!

Now, Write at least 5 questions you have about your chosen topic.

My Questions For Research	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Step 3: Research and Record Research on Note cards.

Steps for paraphrasing:

1. Read the passage, phrase, or paragraph until you fully understand what it means! You shouldn't paraphrase words you do not understand.
2. Set what you read aside, and then write your own summary of what you read on a note card.
3. On the top of your notecard, write a word or phrase that helps you remember what this paraphrase is about. For example, if I am reporting on rhinos and the quote is about poaching, I might write "poaching" in the corner.
4. Make sure your paraphrase is not using more than 4 of the same words in order taken from the text. If you want to take more than 4 words, use a quotation.
5. If the source uses unique terms or phrases from, use quotation marks on your notecard.
6. Finally, remember to include the source and page number on your notecard so you can cite the source if you use this quote or paraphrase in your paper.

Here's an example:

Lined Side

Paraphrased Idea found in research

BLANK Side

Your Name

Source where your idea was found

What mine might look like...

In Nepal, a country that borders China and India, it has been two years since the last Rhino was killed by poachers.

Mrs. Smith

World Wildlife Foundation

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/stories/celebrating-an-amazing-two-years-of-zero-rhino-poaching-in-nepal>

You will receive 20 notecards. You should find 20 facts, being sure to answer the questions you posed earlier in step 2. All facts should be at least one sentence and all facts must include a source. Your notecards will be turned in as part of your grade. The research stage is important because this is where you become an expert on your topic.

Step 4: TURN your Facts into paragraphs.

Use your notes to form a well-written paper that highlights what you found in your research. This is informative writing. You must have at least 20 sentences, as you should have 20 facts. You will also need to have an introduction and conclusion. Remember to catch the reader's attention! You should use a lined sheet of paper to write your essay or type your essay on the computer. Please put your name at the top of your paper and give your essay a unique title.

Example Essay Intro:

The rhino population has been decreasing for decades. However, Research shows that conservationists and others who fight for the rhinos survival have already helped the rhino populations. As people continue to fight for rhinos, their populations will continue to grow. People are already doing so much to help the rhino's survive.

Recently in Nepal, efforts have been made to combat poaching. In this country that borders China and India, it has been two years since a rhino was killed by poachers.....

Step 5: VISUAL or Creative Aid

Now for the super fun part! This must be completed after your paper is written and all your research is complete. You can create a visual or some form of creative aid to help you present your research. This could be creating a map, making a diorama, creating a colorful poster with pictures of your topic, creating slides with images, writing a play to share your research, cooking food that represents your research, dressing up, or anything you can think of that will share your research with the class.

Look at the list on the next page for ideas!

VISUAL AND Creative Aid Ideas

Create a poster
Make a PowerPoint presentation
Design a model
Make a shoebox diorama
Use a 3-panel display board
Make a timeline
Create a board game incorporating key elements.
Write a poem
Write and perform a skit
Make a TV or radio commercial
Make a collage
Make a mobile
Create a test about the topic
Write a report
Create a flow chart or diagram
Write an interview of a relevant person
Write journal/diary entries
Write a postcard or letter exchange
Create a scrapbook
Create a photo album
Make an instructional video
Give a presentation
Make a pamphlet or brochure
Write a newspaper article
Perform a puppet show
Hold a mock court case
Create a game show
Compose a rap or other song
Use a Venn diagram to compare two aspects of the topic
Design a comic strip about the topic
Create a children's story about the topic
Create a map
Write a story or book about the topic
Decorate a box and fill with relevant objects
Create a foldable

Create a flip book
Create a Cootie Catcher
Create a cereal box based on the topic (cover a cereal box)
Assemble a time capsule
Create several bookmarks about different aspects of the topic
Write a recipe relevant to the topic (good for showing causes of an event)
Make food from a specific country or continent
Do a newscast
Create an Internet scavenger hunt
Write an advice column with several problems related to the topic
Create a cheer relevant to the topic
Make a short documentary film
Create a museum exhibit
Create a video game
Make a "Choose Your Own Adventure"
Create a mini book with one fact/idea per page
Create a glossary of relevant terms
Write a handbook or instruction book
Create a newsletter
Create a diorama showing the event

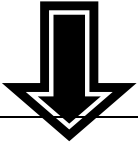
What well constructed visual or creative piece will you have as a part of your project?

Write down your favorite ideas!

Step 6: Do the CHECKLIST SELF-ASSESSMENT and PRESENT your RESEARCH!

To assess your own learning, make sure to do the checklist on the left. Ask yourself if you met the criteria for each section of the rubric. If you feel you did, give yourself a check. If not, feel free to write what you feel went wrong or was challenging. Be honest!

Student Check Here!



Your teacher will fill out the rest of the rubric.

	Topic is brainstormed, questions about research are created, and research includes 20 notecards with the source and paraphrased information.	_____/ 25
	Well written essay created with at least 20 sentences. Essay is organized, spelling is correct, and punctuation is accurate.	_____/ 25
	A visual/creative aid is neatly presented. Adequate effort and time is put into the visual aid.	_____/ 25
	Speaking and expression: During presentation, professional voice is used and student is knowledgeable about their topic.	_____/ 25
Total Score		_____/ 100
Teacher Comments:		