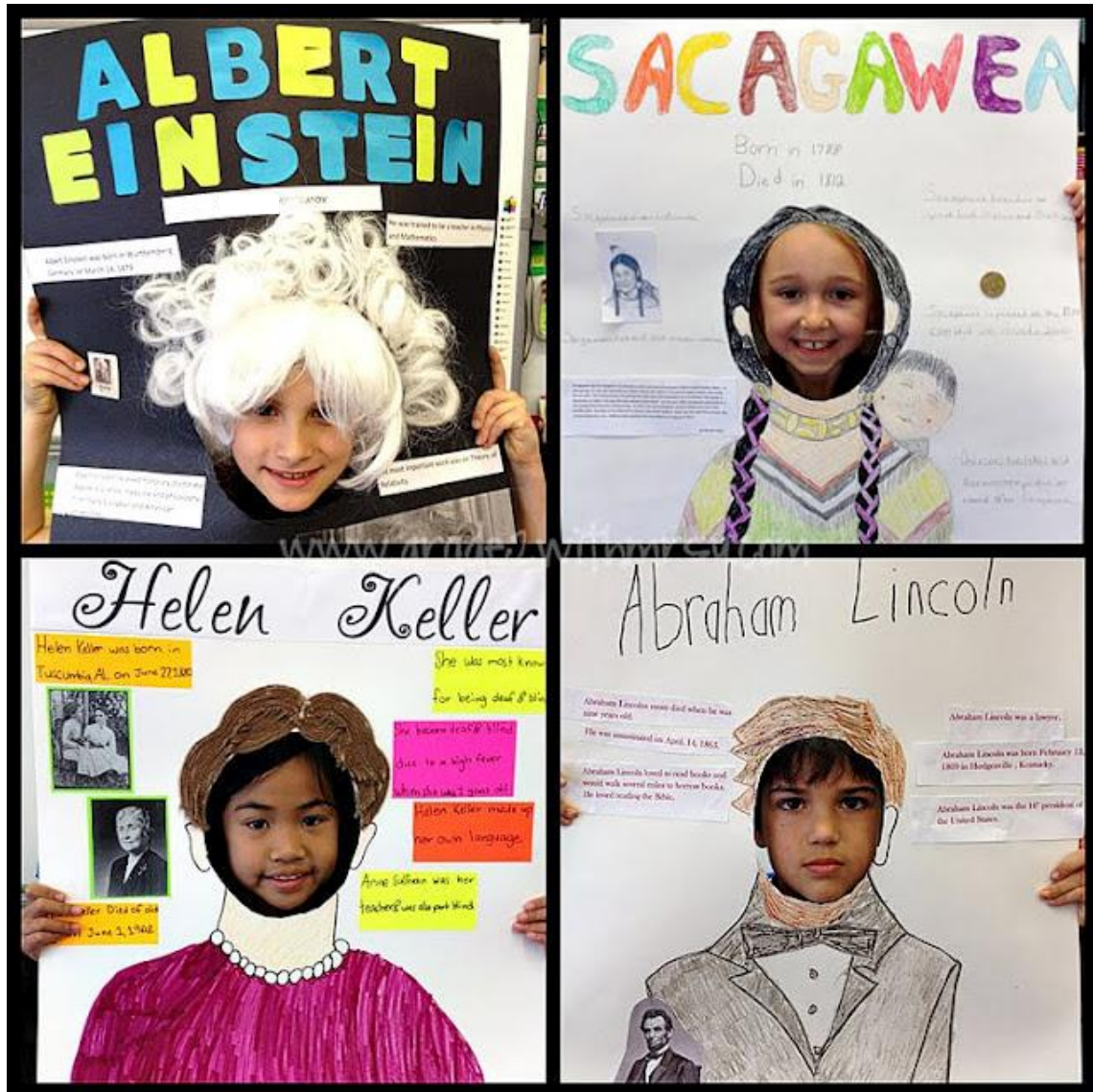


FAMOUS AMERICAN RESEARCH PROJECT



Created by Joy Uzarraga | www.grade2withmrsu.com

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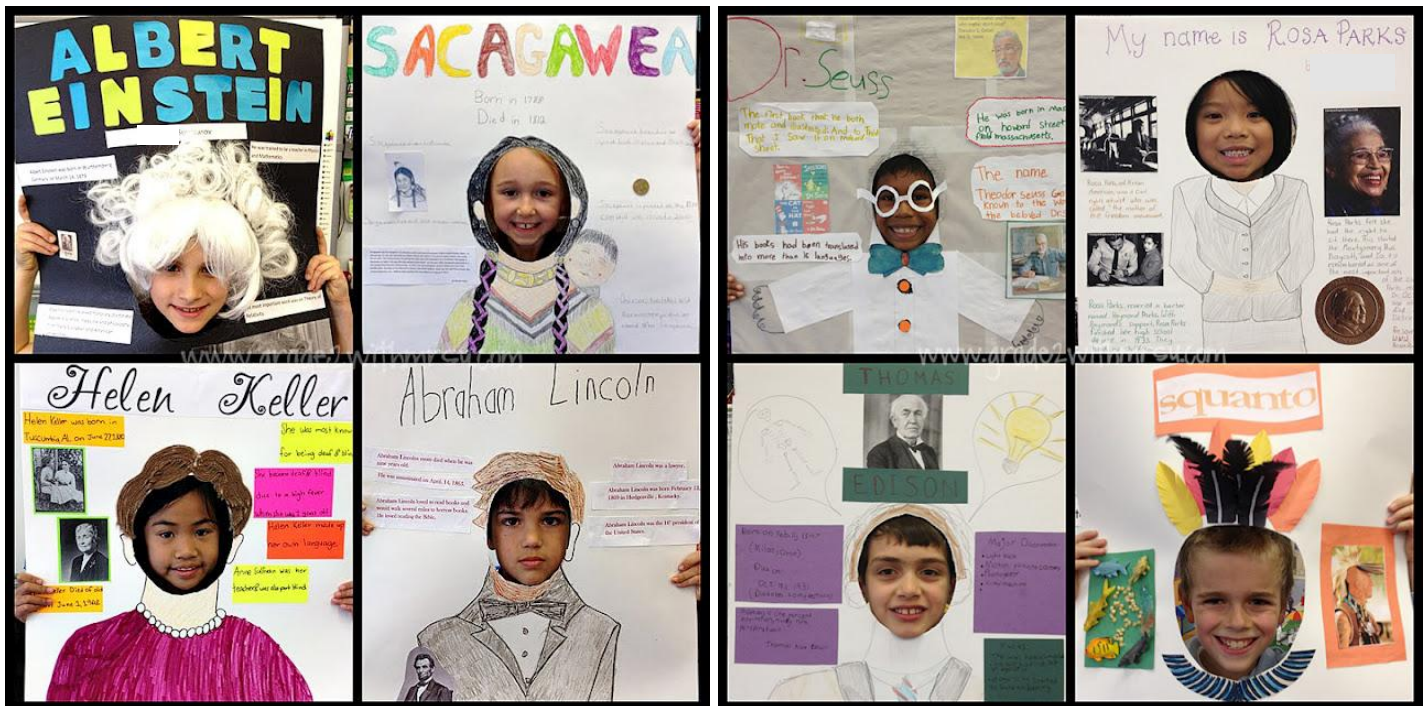
DIRECTIONS

This biographical research project was created as an extension activity for the second grade Pathways theme book *First Flight: The Story of Tom Tate and the Wright Brothers*. This is a simplified version of a Wax Museum biography report geared specifically for the lower elementary student.

Students will neatly and creatively put together information they have researched and learned about their Famous Americans on a posterboard. Unlike a traditional Wax Museum presentation where students dress up and act the part of the person being studied, students will use their posterboards to help them “become” the Famous American that they are studying. (Refer to the images below.) At the end of each presentation, the audience will be given a chance to ask each Famous American questions. You may also take this opportunity to model and/or encourage students to provide constructive feedback. Feel free to invite special guests such as parents, administration, or other classes.

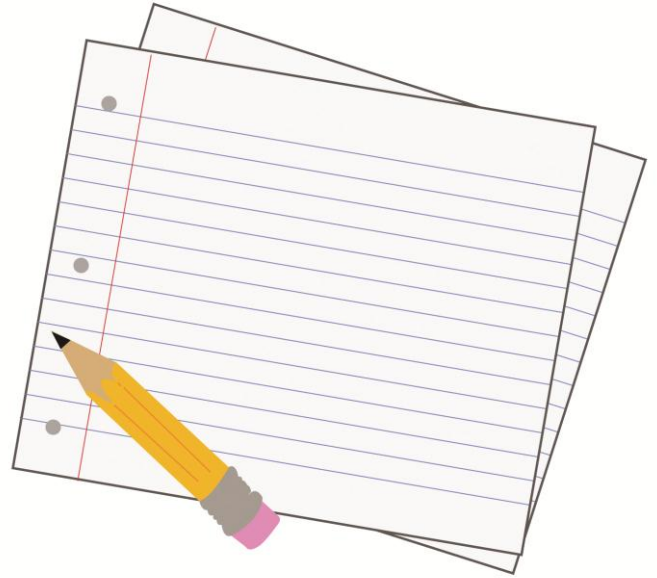
Two grading rubrics have been provided. They can be modified according to your needs. One rubric is for the presentation board. The other is for the actual presentations. Scores are as follows: 2 = criteria met; 1 = criteria partially met; 0 = criteria not met or missing.

Also included is a sign up sheet as well as a parent letter and student forms that can be sent home or emailed to students' families to inform and help prepare them for this project.



SIGN UP SHEET

FAMOUS AMERICAN	STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS
Abigail Adams	
Abraham Lincoln	
Amelia Earhart	
Benjamin Franklin	
Cesar Chavez	
Davy Crockett	
Dr. Seuss	
Elizabeth Blackwell	
George Washington	
Harriet Tubman	
Helen Keller	
John F. Kennedy	
Mark Twain	
Martin Luther King, Jr.	
Neil Armstrong	
Rosa Parks	
Sacagewea	
Squanto	
Susan B. Anthony	
Thomas Edison	
Walt Disney	



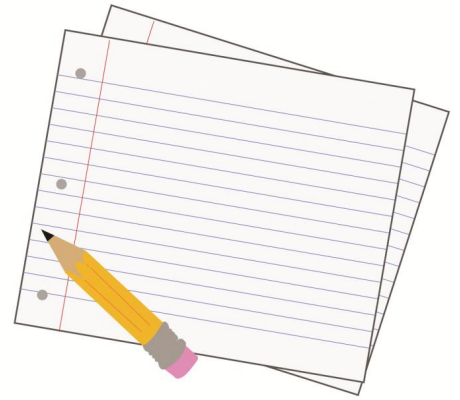
Name _____

My Famous American is _____

I chose this person because _____

I want to learn about _____

Name _____



When was your Famous American born? _____

Where was your Famous American born? _____

Why is this person famous? _____

List three interesting facts about your Famous American.

Fact 1 _____

Fact 2 _____




Fact 3 _____

When did this person die? _____

What caused this person's death? _____

FAMOUS AMERICAN RESEARCH PROJECT




GRADING RUBRIC

NAME			
CRITERIA FOR RESEARCH PROJECT	2 points	1 point	0 points
Student's name on project			
Title - name of the Famous American			
Photograph of the Famous American			
Project includes the following information of the Famous American: <i>(Facts can be written by hand or typed out and printed)</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date and place of birth 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What he/she is famous for 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interesting fact #1 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interesting fact #2 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interesting fact #1 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date and cause of death 			
Facts include the following conventions:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital/uppercase letters 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct punctuation 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct spelling 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentences make sense and are complete 			
Neatness			
Creativity			
List of resources included on project			

TOTAL SCORE _____

FAMOUS AMERICAN ORAL PRESENTATION

GRADING RUBRIC

NAME			
CRITERIA FOR PRESENTATION	2 points	1 point	0 points
Student introduces himself/herself as the Famous American "Hi, my name is ___ [insert name of Famous American] ___."			
Student speaks loud enough for audience to hear			
Student speaks like they are talking – not too fast, not too slow			
Student speaks smoothly			
Student speaks with expression			
Students looks at the audience while speaking			
Student is able to recall and share facts with ease			

TOTAL SCORE _____

Dear Families,

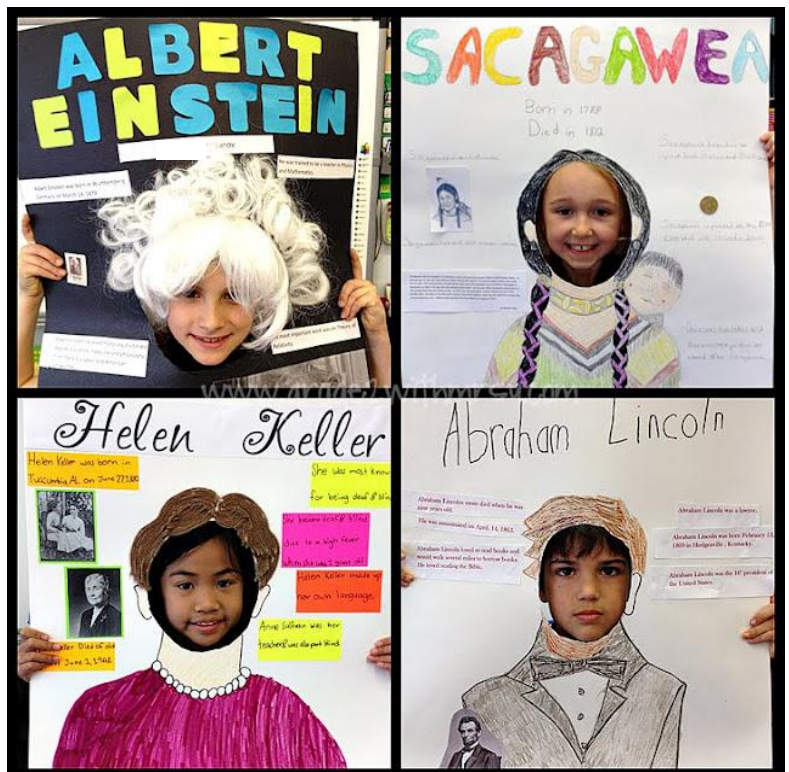
One of the literary genres that our class has been studying this year is biographies. Most recently we have read a book in our Pathways reading program chronicling the events leading up to the historical first flight accomplished by the famous Wright Brothers.

Our class will be having a simplified version of a Wax Museum to help expand our knowledge of biographies and to learn more about people in American history. Each student will choose a Famous American to research and then create a posterboard with information about their Famous American. No need for costumes since the posterboards will also be used as costumes and props! (Refer to image below.)

Students will be expected to meet the criteria listed in the grading rubrics. Copies are attached. One rubric includes what the expectations are for the posterboard. The other rubric lists expectations for the oral presentations. Please read and review these rubrics with your child.

Presentations will be held on _____ . Please help your child remember to bring his or her completed posterboard before or on presentation day. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,



HELPFUL RESOURCES

NAD KEY LEARNINGS:

- Listen to historical stories [Social Studies]
- Compare daily life in the past and present [Social Studies]

COMMON CORE STANDARDS:

- **SL.2.3.** Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to clarify comprehension, gather additional information, or deepen understanding of a topic or issue
- **SL.2.4.** Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences
- **SL.2.6.** Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification.
- **W.2.7.** Participate in shared research and writing projects (e.g., read a number of books on a single topic to produce a report; record science observations).
- **W.2.8.** Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- <http://www.americaslibrary.gov/>
- <http://www.gardenofpraise.com/leaders.htm>
- <http://www.grade2withmrsu.com/2012/05/famous-american-biography-projects-part.html>

THIS LESSON WAS INSPIRED BY:

- <http://lifeinthecapitalwithkids.blogspot.com/2011/02/another-3rd-grade-biography-project.html>