

Wax Museum Biography Project

Your Name: _____

Famous Person: _____

Project Begins: **May 1, 2017**

Written Report Due: Friday **May 19, 2017**

Wax Museum Presentation Date: **May 19, 2017**

The living wax museum is a 5th grade activity that is a 5th grade only tradition at Edison Elementary School. We will be writing our own autobiographies and practicing the art of questioning and biography writing before we dive into the actual project. Once we are done practicing, we will choose a famous person of our choice to complete a Wax Museum Biography Project for the school and our families that answers the question, **“What impact did my person have on history?”**

Project Components

Famous Person Picture: **Due: May 3, 2017 (Beginning of Social Studies Class)**

- Draw a portrait of your person, or find a photo online printed in color. Label your person’s full name in large neat lettering and include the date of birth and date of death (if applicable). Write your first and last name and date in small lettering in the lower right corner of the paper.

Biography Notes: **Due: May 8, 2017 (First thing in the morning before Specials)**

- Read and locate information from **at least three different sources** (one MUST be a book-epic books). Please restate your information in your own words. Do NOT copy word for word what the information says! You will need to cite your sources so be sure to complete the “Bibliography Sources Used.”

Timeline: **Due: May 10, 2017 (Beginning of Social Studies Class)**

- Create a timeline with **at least 12 events**. They can be a mixture of important events in your person’s life **or** events that happened while they were alive . Each event should include the date and a short description (1-3 sentences).

Artifact:

Due: May 16, 2017 (Due at the beginning of Social Studies class)

You will use your notes and timeline of events to prepare an artifact of your famous person's life. Choose 5 of the options below to assemble a creative display of your choice. Some ideas could be: a scrapbook, a shadow box, a memento box, or run an idea by your teacher.

- **Bio Riddle:** This is a poem about your famous person that makes us guess who your person could be. This is a lead to draw your reader in!
- **Birth Certificate** – This is a birth certificate of your person's life.
- **Letter to Mom/Dad** – This is a letter from your person to his or her mother or father.
- **Dear Diary** – This is an entry from your person's diary.
- **Time of My Life** – This page shows historic events that were going on in the world during your person's life. You must have a minimum of two events and a maximum of five events.
- **News Flash** – This is a news article that you will write about your person's most important event in his or her life.
- **Obituary** – This is an article written about your person's death.
- **3 important facts/accomplishments** - This could highlight some of your favorite facts you learned.
- **A quote or saying for which your person is famous** - Did your person really say this? Or is he/she just famous for supposedly saying this? Write the quote and describe what you think it means.

Written Report

Due: May 19, 2017 (First thing in the morning)

Type or write your final copy in your best handwriting about your famous person. Include information in a logical order. Here are some headings to include:

- Where was this person born? In what year?
- Where did this person grow up?
- What does/did this person do for a living?
- Why is this person famous? What did/does this person do to become famous?
- How has this person made an impact on others' lives?
- Interesting information about the person (you may want to include famous quotes, if any).

Wax Museum Presentation Speech

Due: May 19, 2017 (First thing in the morning)

This activity will give you an opportunity to practice public speaking. **You will need to dress up as your person and pretend you are the person speaking.**

Prepare two-three **brief** (1-2 minute) speech, rap, poem, song, or fact telling about your contributions, and about your life. Please have two-three things to share during the wax museum so you don't get bored repeating yourself during the hour and 45 minute presentation. Please rehearse at home. Try to memorize your speech if possible. You may use your notes if needed! Props that would be connected to your person's life are encouraged. Please make sure your props are school appropriate (no weapons etc.). You will need to present yourself at our Wax Museum assembly for the school.

Bottle Doll

Due: May 18, 2017 (At the end of Social Studies class)

Once you have chosen a person you think you may want to study for this biography unit, you will make a bottle doll. Google "Bottle Doll" and you will get ideas as to what these are made out of. We have seen soda bottles, wine bottles, and even bowling pins. You must dress your bowling pin doll in the kind of clothing he/she wore. Before dressing your doll, you need to prep and paint your bottle. You may want to paint several coats to keep it from chipping. It might be a good idea to go to a hobby store such as Wal-Mart, Michael's or Hobby Lobby to find items to dress your bottle doll. Take your time on this project because many of these dolls turn out looking quite professional and it is something you keep for a long time. Have fun!

Project Outline and Due Dates

Please have your family member sign each component on or before the due date.

Project Component	Due Date	Family Signature
<u>Famous Person Picture:</u>	5/03/17	_____
<u>Biography Notes:</u>	5/08/17	_____
<u>Timeline:</u>	5/10/17	_____
<u>Artifacts:</u>	5/16/17	_____
<u>Bottle Doll:</u>	5/18/17	_____
<u>Written Report:</u>	5/19/17	_____
<u>Wax Museum Speech:</u>	5/19/17	_____

Bibliography of Sources Used

Biography Notes Due Date:

Source 1: Book/Internet (Circle one)

Author: _____

Title: _____

Description in your own words on what the book was about (3-5 sentences):

Source 2: Book/Internet (Circle one)

Author: _____

Title: _____

Description in your own words on what the book was about (3-5 sentences):

Source 3: Book/Internet (Circle one)

Author: _____

Title: _____

Description in your own words on what the book was about (3-5 sentences):

HELPFUL HINTS FOR YOUR WAX MUSEUM 1-2 MINUTE SPEECH

1. Who are you? Why are you significant?
2. Discuss your family life. Who were your parents? When and where were you born? Where did you grow up (if different than birthplace)? Brothers and Sisters? Married? Children? Famous Relatives? Significant things that may have happened during childhood? Did you overcome any major obstacles in your childhood?
3. What kind of education did you receive? What were your trades, skills, hobbies, etc? What was your occupation(s)?

4. What did you do that was so important? How did your actions change things, and/or affect others? What might have happened if you didn't do anything?
5. Conclude by restating your importance to the country/world. When and where did you die? Did any significant events follow your death? Are there any monuments, holidays, statues, etc. that honor you?

Wax Museum Narrative

Due: May 19, 2017

Use your notes, book, scrapbook and research to write out your speech. Try to keep your speech 1-2 minutes long. (Remember: First person)

A. My name is

_____.

I am known for

_____.

B. As a child

I _____.

C. My educational background is

_____.

D. The most important accomplishment I did was

_____.

If I wasn't born the world would

_____.

E. The holidays that honor me are

_____.

I died on _____.

Dear Families,

This is just a note informing you of our upcoming project. There are many people who have been influential in the history of our nation. Each student will select a biography of a selected individual who was influential in the formation of our country. Students will be in charge of decorating their bottle doll and finding costumes/props before wax museum day. In art class, students will create a background for their presentation. Students will be creating a detailed scrapbook, biography paper, and speech during school for museum visitors to look through while visiting their exhibit.

WAX MUSEUM:

EVENT DATE: Friday, May 19, 2017

Students will present an oral biography about their person along with their scrapbook and bottle doll. We will hold a “Wax Museum” at school from 1:00- 2:45 pm. Students will stand still in a designated spot until someone approaches them and drops a penny, nickel, dime and/or quarter into a designated box/cup. Once the coin is dropped in the box, the students will come alive as their biography figure and give their speech, riddle, fun fact or present their artifacts.

We are encouraging students to find one or more books about their person they selected, read it and take an AR test to ensure they completely understand their figure’s life. After students take their AR test, they are required to take notes using a minimum of three sources. They will record their sources on the “Bibliography of Sources Used” form. They will record their notes using the Writing Alive note taking format. These notes will go in the back of their scrapbook when they are done with the other requirements. Students are also encouraged to use research tools and methods that include: the Internet (.org, .net, .edu), getepic.com, the library etc for their information.

Students will be graded on a number of different criteria: information, use of time (inside/outside of the classroom) and quality of performance. Expression, gestures, and motions will be expected for a high performance grade. Costumes are encouraged, though not required for the presentation. **However, all students need some type of prop with their presentation if they do not have a costume (students with costumes can have props as well).**

ARTIFACT:

DUE: May 16, 2017

The students will be working on an artifact of their famous person. This artifact will contain poems, news articles, diary entries, important events, and more!

Bottle Doll:

DUE: May 19, 2017

Each student will be use a bottle to decorate a look alike of their famous figure. It would be beneficial to prepare the bottle before painting (with house or spray paint). Students should use doll clothes and/or material of any kind to help dress their bottle to look like their famous figure.

FIFTH GRADE PERFORMANCE:

DUE: May 19, 2017

Following the “Wax Museum,” the fifth grade will continue the day with a music/art/dance performance in the auditorium from 3:00 – 3:30 pm. Please continue our celebration by joining us in the auditorium to hear Revolutionary War songs.

****Please sign and return the bottom half of this sheet so we know you have read and understand the details of this project.*

Thank you for your cooperation,

Mrs. Archibald, Mrs. Bartista, and Mrs. McConnell

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Here is a list of people to help choose from:

Abigail Adams
John Adams

Louisa May Alcott
Elizabeth Cady Stanton

John Hancock
Molly Pitcher

John Quincy Adams
Samuel Adams
William Allen
Ethan Allen
Benedict Arnold
King George III
Ferdinand Magellan
William Penn
Paul Revere
Martha Washington
Mercy Otis Warren
George Washington
Prudence Wright

Lord Charles Cornwallis
Benjamin Franklin
Nathaniel Greene
Myles Cooper
Patrick Henry
John Dickinson
Thomas Paine
Margaret Catherine Moore
Betsy Ross
James Madison
James Monroe
Nathan Hale
Patience Wright

Alexander Hamilton
Joseph Brandt
Harriet Tubman
Marquis de Lafayette
Robert E. Lee
Patience Wright
Clara Barton
William Prescott
Roger Williams
Elizabeth Blackwell
Susan B. Anthony