

Grade 4 Research Project: Overview and Calendar

Project Scope

As a culmination of the learning we have done in 4th grade, we participate in a project that utilizes all of the **foundational literacy skills** we have learned this year. The skills include but are not limited to:

- Reading for information
- Cause and effect
- Chronological order
- Problem and solution
- Synthesizing information
- Note taking
- Identifying main ideas
- Finding important details
- Organizing information
- Forming paragraphs
- Keyboarding
- Technology use
- Time management and pacing
- Public speaking
- and much more

In addition, the project allows students to delve into topics from our science and social studies **content areas**. This is an opportunity for students to think more deeply about an area of the United States and apply what we are learning about the land, economy, and culture of each region.

End Products

- 4-5 Paragraph Research Report (written at school)
- 3D Product and Presentation (created at home)

Key Dates	At School	At Home
Fri., May 15	Topic Selected	
Mon., May 18	Note-Taking Begins	Note-Taking Begins
Wed., May 20	Calendar & Planning for Research	
Fri., May 29	Introduce 3 D Project	Select 3D Project Idea
Tues., June 2	3D Project Idea: Teacher Approval	3D Materials List & Draft Calendar Plan
Thurs., June 4	Note-Taking completed and 3D Materials List & Plan Teacher Approval	Note-Taking completed
Fri., June 5	Research Writing Begins	3D Project work begins
Fri., June 12	Typed Research Report Due	
Wed., June 17		3D Project work ends
Thurs. June 18	Research Project and Presentation for Parents 8:15-9:20	

Resources Used

Wellesley Public Library: The public library is an integral part of the success of the project. The youth room at the main library has a number of books reserved for the project. These books cannot be removed from the library. Students will most likely ask you for some additional project time at the library to help them complete their work.

Online Databases: The public library and Hunnewell School have several resources available to students that can be accessed from home via the Internet. The access is password protected.

Wellesley Public Library has access through a personal card and a pin number. All students have been asked to obtain a library card so that they have access. Students should bring their library cards and pin numbers (or write down their numbers in their assignment notebooks) to school so they can access their accounts while in school.

Hunnewell database access user names and passwords have been given to students and students can access the databases via the Hunnewell Librarian website.

In Class Instruction: Students' topics are connected to our content areas. Therefore students are able to use classroom discussions to shape their study.

Parents and Guardians: You are an important part of the project. Regular discussions, helping to carve out time from busy schedules to work on the project outside of school, and material gathering will help your child achieve success and feel in control of the project. In addition, please review your child's or children's planning and calendar(s). It is beneficial for someone at home and at school to frequently check in on a student's progress and pacing in these kinds of long-term projects.

We thank you for all of your support and look forward to seeing you on June 18th for the Research Project and Presentation! Please contact your child's or children's respective classroom teacher(s) if you have comments or questions during this long-term project.

Warmly,
Tasaneé Lolonga, Marcia Sullivan and Pollyanna Sidell