Social Studies

Revolutionary War Project

You will be assigned a person from the American Revolutionary War time period for this project. Your goal is to read about your assigned person and then create an “Action Figure” that advertises and reflects his or her contributions to the war. The Action Figure will be displayed on a large poster board and a written report will accompany the poster. We will be holding a Colonial Day Celebration where your action figure will be on display. During the celebration, you will become your historical figure and persuade the Action Figure Company to buy your product.

April 11-13, 2012

Project Assigned. The first step is to find information on your historical person. You should use a variety of references, such as biographies, encyclopedias, internet sources etc., for this project. Remember, your social studies book is a good place to start as well. Use the classroom, school, and public libraries. You may also use your independent reading time to read a biography on your person. Be sure to take notes on exactly where your information comes from because you will be completing a bibliography (reference page) for this project.

May 7, 2012

Begin Paper and Poster. Your mission is to create an Action Figure to advertise this historical person. You must clearly represent the major accomplishments of this real figure. You are trying to convince the Action Figure Company to buy this product.

May 25, 2012 Project (poster and paper) due.

The date of the Colonial Day Celebration will be Thursday, June 7, 2012. During the Colonial Days Celebration students in the third, fourth, and sixth grade classes, as well as your parents, will be your audience. You will play the part of your historical figure, acting in costume, as you try to sell yourself to the Action Figure Company.
Revolutionary War Action Figure Check List

Revolutionary War Project Requirements:

Poster: The following requirements must be completed for full credit. All portions of your Action Figure should be glued on to your poster. Your poster must be neat, complete, and creative! The following are your guidelines:

- **The name of your action figure** – remember, the name you give your action figure must be relevant and clearly express whom your action figure is fashioned after. Also state your figure’s name and dates of birth and death.

- **The action figure** – use the template provided or create your own. You need to draw, sketch, or cut out a picture or your figure’s face/head and add it to the template. You must also dress your person appropriately according to the time period.

- **Accessories** – you must have at least five items that accessorize your figure. Think! The accessories must explain something about what this person has done in his or her life. You may draw or attach objects to your poster. **No computer generated pictures are allowed.**

- **Sayings** – create at least three sayings (quotations) that your famous figure might have said, and show them on your poster. The sayings can be direct quotes that your person is famous for or something you create on your own that pertains to that person.

- **Paper** – Your paper must be five paragraphs long and follow the format given in the project assignment outline. A separate copy (besides the copy mounted on the poster) of your paper is to be handed in including the title page and reference page.

- **Be sure that your poster is eye appealing!** – you want to SELL the action figure for profits! You would not go to the advertising executives of MTV or the NFL with a sloppy looking poster!

- **Remember, the final due date is May 25th. Do a little work each night – do not wait until the last minute! This project cannot be done in one night! Have fun and be creative!**

**June 7th will be Colonial Day at Glen Hills School.** Students and parents will be viewing your action figure project in the cafeteria. You must assume the role of your action figure during the exhibition. **You must dress and act as your historical figure. Be prepared to answer questions, so know your facts!**
Paper

You will write a **five-paragraph report**. Each paragraph must include a main idea with supporting details and should have a minimum of five complete sentences. You will find that some categories will require more than five complete sentences if done correctly. To receive full credit, your paragraphs must follow the outline below.

**Paragraph One:**

Introduce your historical figure. You must include his or her accomplishments and what made your figure famous or interesting. Stick to the facts and remember your information must pertain to the Revolutionary War.

**Paragraph Two:**

Your opinion, thoughts, and feelings about your historical figure’s life and accomplishments.

**Paragraph Three:**

Describe the five accessories that you gave your figure. Be sure to explain the reasons clearly so that your reader understands why these items are going to help “sell” the action figure. Remember, the clothes you use for your Action Figure or the materials you used to create your Action figure **do not** count as accessories.

**Paragraph Four:**

Explain the sayings that you created or found for your action figure. Why do you think this historical person would say these things? Use specific references to the person, his or her life, and his or her personality.

**Paragraph Five:**

Be persuasive! This paragraph should tell why the Action Figure Company should want to buy your product. Remember, you are trying to persuade the company to buy your action figure.

The final due date is May 25th, 2011. Do a little each night – DO NOT wait until the last minute. Have fun and be creative!
George Washington Carver

By: Joe J. Student

George Washington Carver was born in 1864 to a young slave girl. He was orphaned when he was a baby and adopted by Susan and Moses Carver. On their farm, he became known as the Plant Doctor because he collected all kinds of plants and rocks. He loved nature. He taught himself how to read and did not start a formal education until he was about twelve years old. After high school, he earned degrees in science, botany, and agriculture. He became a professor of soil conservation at Iowa State College and then worked at Tuskegee Institute as the Director of Agriculture. There, he developed a method of crop growing called crop rotation. He taught farmers in the south how to rotate their crops to get the best crops from the soil. He helped the south become a leader in America for growing not only cotton and tobacco, but also peanuts, peas, soybeans, sweet potatoes, and pecans. He came up with many discoveries. He developed 325 different products from peanuts, including coffee, face powder, ink, butter, soap, and wood stains. He developed 105 ways to prepare peanuts for human consumption. Carver also developed many other products from sweet potatoes and other kinds of plants. He did not profit from his discoveries and donated all of his life savings to Tuskegee Institute for a research center in his name.

George Washington Carver is a famous African American that many children study in Social Studies, at school, during Black History Month in February. Many students have heard the name before, but do not know much about Carver’s life. George Washington Carver taught himself how to read. He had a very difficult life growing up. Carver was very sickly as a child and he loved to be around nature. He was discriminated against because of his race. Carver knew an education was important and he never gave up his dream of becoming a scientist. George Washington Carver was very generous and did not profit from his discoveries. He helped many students get an education, and he donated his life savings to charity. George Washington Carver helped many people during his life and should be honored. His childhood home in Diamond Grove, Missouri is a national monument.

The five accessories that are included with the George Washington Carver action figure are a bowl of peanuts, a scientist’s table with an apron, plant, and microscope, a paintbrush, paint, and easel, garden tools, and one of his research papers. The bowl of peanuts represents the crop that Carver brought to the southern farmers and helped the poor farmers economically. Included with the figure are things a scientist would use in his lab. This would include a table to work at, a plant to study, and an apron to put on over the figure’s suit. Included with this figure of George Washington Carver are the items needed to paint. Painting was Carver’s hobby. Garden tools are also included with the figure. Carver spent most of his time working on a farm and he enjoyed growing different crops. Carver wrote many research papers and some books. “How to Grow the Peanut and 105 Ways of Preparing it for Human Consumption” is the title included. All of these items will help the toy figure come to life.
The George Washington Carver action figure says three great quotes. “Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom…,” recites George Washington Carver. Education was very important to him. “I am especially interested in southern crops and their possibilities, and the peanut comes in. I think, for one of the most remarkable crops that we are all acquainted with,” announces Carver. He said this in 1918 to the congressional committee. He told the committee that the government needed to support the American peanut industry. Carver also says, “I am the Plant Doctor.” This was his nickname when he was a young boy growing up on a farm in Missouri.

The Action Figure Company should buy this action figure of George Washington Carver. He was a great scientist who helped many people especially the poor farmers of the south. This is a fun and educational toy. The company could sell the toy to children who someday want to be a scientist or a farmer. The George Washington Carver action figure is a collectable toy that also comes with a commemorative stamp issued by the US post office.
Reference Page Format

BOOKS

Basic Form:

Author. Title of the Book. City (Choose the first city given on the title page of the book; if the city is not well known, include the name of the state): Publisher, copyright date.

A Book By One Author


A Book By Two Authors


A Book With an Edition


A Book With an Editor


A Book With a Subtitle


Book By More Than Three Authors


Article, Story or Poem Within a Book

Green, Thomas. “Large Cats Are Dangerous To Have As Pets.” Animal Rights:
Opposing Viewpoints.


**GENERAL ENCYCLOPEDIA (ex. World Book)**

**Basic Form:**

Author. “Title of the Article.” Title of Encyclopedia. Copyright ed. (ed. = edition)


**INTERNET SOURCE**

**Basic Form:**

Author. (You may not have one. Just start with the small section of the site or the title of the site). “Small section of site. (You didn’t use the whole site.)” Title of the Site (May have a subtitle). Date of site. (Updated information or copyright. Most of the time it will be at the end of the site, but there may not be one.) Sponsor of site (ex. Museum of Paris, University of Kentucky, Britannica Online, or National Wildlife Federation. Date you accessed the site <address>. (There is no punctuation between the date you accessed the site and the address-just a space. If your address turns blue and your <> disappear, that’s fine! The address must be complete.)


**PERIODICALS (MAGAZINES)**

**Basic Form:**

Author. “Title.” Title of the Magazine date of magazine: page number(s).


“Treatments for Snake Bites.” Health October 2000: 45+ (If the reader must turn
to the last pages in the magazine to continue reading the article, you indicate that with the +
sign.).
NEWSPAPERS

Basic Form:

Author. “Title.” Title of Newspaper. Date of newspaper: Section page number.


PAMPHLETS

Basic Form:

The form is exactly like a book.

For additional examples and guidelines, please consult the following:


www.mla.org

www.easybib.com

The Library's website at http://lib.lbcc.edu has links to citation guides. Click on Websites > Citation Guides or Writing Tips