

Biography Project

You are required to find a famous person in Texas History, dead or alive to write a biography report about. You may NOT choose a sports figure, actor, or musician and it must be someone either born in Texas or someone that was made famous by something they did for Texas! You will also be required to create a file folder of their life, as well as, an oral presentation of the person you chose. In your presentation you must dress as that person would've dressed and speak in the first person (as if you were that person). You may also use props, but please DO NOT go out and spend \$\$ on a costume. Look around your house and get creative!! See what you already have to help bring your person to life, but most importantly have fun!!

Project Begins: May 4th -Your famous person form must be approved and turned in to me on this date!!

Written Report: Tuesday, May 22nd -This is to be completed AT HOME!!!!

File Folder: Tuesday, May 22nd-This will be completed IN CLASS!!!

Speeches Begin: Monday, May 21st-22nd

****YOU WILL PRESENT AT LEAST TWICE TO A THIRD GRADE CLASS****

File Folder Report Directions:

****This will be completed IN CLASS!! Please bring in any pictures or quotes that you found from your famous person the week of May 7th!!!!**

File Folder Report:

- **Front Cover:** Attach a drawing of your famous person
- **Inside Left Cover:** Attach your timeline (see directions below) & your "Important Poem". You can create your own format for your poem or you can use the one below.
- **Inside Right Cover:** Staple all pages of the written report with bibliography at the end
- **Back Cover:** Glue any photos or quotes
- **File Folder Tab:** Write the famous person's name and your name

Background Information on the Person:

You will need to read and locate information from at least two sources:

1. Biography novel
2. Internet source

Famous Person Drawing (front cover):

Draw a picture in color of your famous person. If you don't want to draw a picture then you can find a picture off the internet! Below the picture,

label your person's full name in large neat lettering and dates of birth and death. Write your first and last name and the date in small lettering in the lower right corner of the paper. **EXAMPLE:**



Helen Adams Keller
1880 – 1968

By: Heather Hines
May 01, 2009

Timeline (inside left cover):

****YOU WILL NEED TO BRING THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU THE WEEK OF MAY 7TH!!! WE WILL BEGIN WORKING ON OUR FILE FOLDERS MONDAY THE 7TH!!!!**

Create an accurate timeline with at least 10 events in your person's life. Add drawings or photos to the timeline.

Written Report (inside right): THIS IS TO BE COMPLETED AT HOME AND IS DUE Tuesday, MAY 22nd!!!

Use Microsoft Word or write your final copy in your BEST handwriting. Include information in a logical, sequential order and 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?
- When and where did this person pass away?
- Quotes and interesting information about the person
- Fill out the bibliography information sheet showing the two sources used (and any others) and attach it as the last page of your report.

Important Book Poem (inside left cover):

Margaret Wise Brown was the author of a book entitled *The Important Book*.

You may use this as a model and write a poem entitled "The Important Thing" using your famous person as the subject of the poem. You do not

have to use the model, you may create your own, if you so choose.

Example:

The important thing about _____ is that he _____. (what he is famous for)
He _____. (list one thing he did)
He _____. (list another thing he did)
He _____. (list a third thing he did)
But the important thing about _____ is that he was _____. (what he is famous for)

Here is an example poem:

*The important thing about Sir Francis Drake is that he was an English explorer.
He was the first Englishman to circumnavigate the world.
He followed secret orders from Queen Elizabeth as a pirate who attacked Spanish ships and towns.
He later became Vice-Admiral of the English navy as commanded by the queen.
But, the most important thing about Sir Francis Drake is that he defeated the Spanish Armada and kept England safe.*

Public Speaking Monologue:

This activity will give you an opportunity to meet your benchmark in public speaking. You will dress up (as much as you can) as your person and pretend you are the person! You will tell all about your contributions and about your life. You will need to rehearse at home. Speeches will begin on Monday, May 21st, and you will be assigned a time and day to give your presentation. You will be presenting to a 3rd grade class. It should be about 3 to 5 minutes in length. We will be working on these presentations in class and you will be required to practice at home!! You may use the attached format for your presentation.

Your project and presentation will be scored for:

- Content - important details included
- Organization - a clear beginning, middle, and end
- Language - appropriate and interesting words and language
- Delivery – good eye contact, volume, and body posture

***PLEASE CUT THIS PAPER OFF AT THE DASHED LINE BELOW & TURN IN TO YOUR TEACHER BY FRIDAY, MAY 4TH.**

I understand that I will need to work on my project at school and at home and that my file folder biography will be turned in on Tuesday May 22nd. Costumed presentations will begin on Monday, May 21st and end on Tuesday, May 22nd.

NAME _____

FAMOUS PERSON: 1.) _____ 2.) _____ 3.) _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

