

Research Report

Subject: Technology/ Language Arts

Grade: 6th Grade

Time: 4 hours in school plus time at home for rough draft (½ hour to present expectations and introduction, 1 to research and begin rough draft, ½ to review edits and 2 for final draft)

Group: Whole Group and Individual

Standards: NETS – Students 1a, 1b1, 1b2, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b, 4b, 5a, 5b, 5c, 6a, 6b

Performance Indicators: All 6-8 Indicators

Objective: Students will use the internet and other resources to research a topic. Then, the student will use a word processing tool to compile their research into a publishable document including their research, title page and citations.

Resources/Materials Needed:

Internet access, a word processing tool, rubric for self assessment, editing tools: highlighters, post it notes, or online tools to accomplish the same task; books, and magazines on the topic they are researching, or *Ebscohost* access; Internet Safety PowerPoint presentation from TIS; examples of previous papers that meet requirements or fall short.

Internet sites:

search.ebscohost.com

http://kids.yahoo.com/ask_earl/index

<http://kids.yahoo.com/learn/index>

<http://www.askforkids.com>

Activities/Procedures:

Discuss:

- The desired outcome of the research report, whether it is to accompany the Science Fair Project, or stand alone as a class assignment.
- Internet safety, and resource reliability, correct resource citation;
- Look at examples of previous work and have the students evaluate them prior to beginning theirs.
- Possible topics for research, locations to research.

Demonstrate:

- how Ebsco works and what it is used for
- how to copy and paste information into a “notes” page including URLs for a reference page; reinforce that we ***do not*** print entire websites!
- how to evaluate the information on a page for validity and helpfulness
- how to find only texts that pertain specifically to their topic, scan for information
- how to type a report from the information that they have collected

Practice:

- allow time for students to research their topics with you and observe how they act and react to different sites, (this is an assessment item)
- have them write their rough draft based on their research and a peer conversation
- peer edit prior to teacher looking at the rough draft for final edits
- make sure all rough drafts have been edited prior to sending to word processing
- complete the research report with a title page, and reference page or bibliography
- have students self evaluate their final product, their skills, and the amount they feel they learned from this activity (see self evaluation tool)

Closing:

Have students print out their final draft and, save to a Student Drop Box. They need to be aware of where they are printing as this is another assessment item.