

HOLY CROSS ELEMENTARY

2011-2012

TWO OPTIONS - Grades 4 – 5 – 6

Because research is such an important skill, all of our 4th, 5th, and 6th graders are required to research a topic/subject as a class social studies requirement. **Here are the two options!**

I. Social Studies Fair Project

- A. Holy Cross Fair date – **Tuesday, February 28, 2012**
- B. Students may work individually or within a group (limited to two students). Grading requirements are patterned according to grade level abilities.
- C. Students choose a topic of interest in one of these disciplines:
 1. Anthropology
 2. Economics
 3. History
 4. Political Science
 5. Geography
 6. Sociology
- D. Projects will be judged locally and all students who participate will receive:
 1. 2 additional grades in Social Studies, one for the display board and one for the written research paper (*be sure to include all components & steps leading up to the completed paper*).
 2. a jean day on a designated day(s)
 3. a certificate of participation
- E. Four Social Studies projects will be chosen from the Holy Cross winners to compete at the Regional Fair at Nicholls in March.

II. Research Paper

- A. Students who choose not to participate in the Social Studies Fair will be required to do a research paper as part of our social studies requirements.
 1. Grade 4 students will research a state in the U.S.
 2. Grade 5 students will research a topic in American History.
 3. Grade 6 students will research an event in Europe, Asia, or Africa or a topic in World History.
- B. Teachers will further instruct students on the guidelines.
- C. A Social Studies grade will be given on the written research paper and the steps leading up to the completed paper.

**The teachers will conduct workshops for parents on: Thur, December 1 Gr. 4 – 8:15 am
Gr. 5 - 10:15 am
Gr. 6 - 9:15 am**

*If you cannot attend, please schedule a meeting with your child's teacher.
Information will also be placed on Edline.*

The workshop will be held in the Meeting Room. If you plan to attend, please fill out the form below and return it with your child. Thank you!

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- I will attend the workshop for the Social Studies Fair and the Research Paper.
 I will not be able to attend the workshop. I will call to schedule an appointment.

Signature _____

Child/Grade/Teacher _____

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November, 2011

Teachers, grades 4 through 6, will begin the research paper process in November. Teachers at each level will team teach with a sample of the process being the result.

Timeline and Info For Student Social Studies Project and Research Paper

1. **December 2, 2011** - Choose a topic of interest and possible research questions (3-5).
 2. **December 9, 2011** - Write final research questions (3-5 questions).
Make sure questions are good researchable questions.
 - 3 questions at grade 4
 - 4 questions at grade 5
 - 5 questions at grade 6
 3. **January 9, 2012** - Note cards due, as many as needed to answer questions.
These must be hand written.
 4. **January 20, 2012** - Rough draft due. Must be typed.
Exceptions must be checked with teacher.
 5. **February 27, 2012** - Final due. Two (2) copies must be turned in.
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These are the components to be included on rough draft and final.

- B**
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- a. Title Page
 - b. Table of Contents
 - c. Topic Paragraph - state your subject
 - d. Body* - answer questions – a paragraph per question
 - e. Conclusion - restate subject, summarize, give your opinion
 - f. Works Cited - list of sources

5. **February 27, 2012** - Final product due.

*Page numbers will consist of “student’s last name, page #” and should be located in the top, right-hand corner of the page, i.e. “Potter, 1”. Table of Contents is page #1.

SAMPLE WORKS CITED

A book by a single author:

Smith, Jane. Vacations You Can Afford. New York: Harcourt Brace Publishing Co., 1997.

A book by two authors:

Birnbaum, William and James Nelson. Disneyworld on a Budget. Chicago: Bernard C Klein, Inc., 1998.

A book by no identified author:

Vacations Anyone Can Afford. Boston: Prentice-Hall, 1998.

A magazine article:

Hendrick, Gary. "Family Vacation Fun." Good Housekeeping. 8 Oct. 1998: 135-137.

An encyclopedia article (with author):

Doe, John. "Disneyland." Encyclopedia Americana. 2005.

An encyclopedia article (no author):

"Disneyland." Encyclopedia Americana. 2005.

Interviews:

Blume, Judy. Personal interview. 10 Nov. 2008.

Cleary, Beverly. Telephone interview. 9 Oct. 2007.

An Internet article:

Mandell, Mark and Mary Beth Garrigan. "Vacations for Less." 14 Aug. 1999.

Consumer Guide Newsletter. 12 Nov. 2000.

<http://utexas.edu/depts/homeec>.

Note: Remember that for book sources, you must also list page number(s) that you actually used at the end of each bibliographic entry *unless you read the entire book*.

SOCIAL STUDIES RUBRIC

Topic: _____/10

Research Questions: _____/10

Notecards: _____/50

Rough Draft: _____/30

*(Must include all components-
see format below)*

TOTAL: _____/100

FINAL COPY RUBRIC

Format: _____/15

(includes the following parts)

- Title page
- Table of contents
- Body
 - a. Topic paragraph
 - b. Body
 - c. Conclusion
- Works cited

Grammar/Mechanics: _____/35

Content: _____/50

TOTAL: _____/100

Length of Paper

1-4 TYPED pages
Pages must be numbered,
beginning with the
Table of Contents