

8th Grade History Fair Project Social Studies 2015-2016

For this project each student will be asked to compare one chapter (studied at the beginning of the year) with another chapter (studied in the middle or end of the year).

Project ***format*** can be one of the following:

- Paper
- Documentary (movie)
- Exhibit (slideshow, poster)
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This project will be completed according to the steps, due dates, and point values below. The entire project will be worth ***150 points***:

Step one: Pick a topic (listed below)

Due date: 11/20/2015

1. Compare and contrast the outbreak of WWI in Europe (Chapter 21) with the outbreak of WWII in Europe (Chapter 24).
2. Compare and contrast the United States' entry into WWI (Chapter 21) with the United State's entry into WWII (Chapter 24). Also, compare and contrast the ways in which the American public prepared for and contributed to the war effort in each case.
3. Compare and contrast the post-war culture of the 1920s in the U.S. (Chapter 22) to the post-war culture of the 1950s in the U.S. (Chapter 25).
4. Explain the following quote: "World War I was the defining event of the 20th Century." Use information from Chapter 21 and another chapter that you think proves this quote to be true.

Step two: Submit a working bibliography of research materials*

25 points

Due date: 12/11/2015

8-10 separate sources are required

The following are suggested websites for research purposes:

www.eyewitnesstohistory.org

www.pbs.org

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/>

<http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/>

<http://edsitement.neh.gov>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov>

<http://www.on-this-day.com/>

<http://www.loc.gov/>

<http://www.archives.gov/index.html>

news.google.com

For more websites, browse this website:

<http://www.findingdulcinea.com/news/education/2010/march/101-Great-Sites-for-Social-Studies.html>

Step three: Write a thesis

25 points

Due date: 12/18/2015

A thesis is the subject for a composition or essay. After you've picked your topic and selected research materials, you'll need to decide what the main point of your paper or project will be. What would you like to prove? What would you like to inform your audience about? Keep in mind the thesis you create now might change over the course of your research.

The following chart, found in *Voyages in English* Chapter, 8 page 493, is useful when beginning research/writing a thesis.

Topic:	What I know:	What I want to know:

Step four: Research

Due date: Ongoing

Beginning in mid-November until the end of March, the 8th graders will have one in-class research day each week. This means much of work can be done in class.

Any other additional materials, art supplies, poster board, video equipment, etc. will need to be brought from home. Each week, students will be checking in with Miss Lilek and completing pre-determined checklist items in order to stay on track and practice time management skills.

Final Project Due Date: 4/22/2016

100 points

During the last week of school, projects will be displayed during graduation activities for parents, students, teachers, and community members to view.