












Sample Timeline for Implementing History Day







September

-  Familiarize yourself with the NHD theme sheet and sample topics available for your grade level. This information can be found in the Teacher Resource section of the California NHD website.
-  Look at your curriculum for the year and determine a list of possible topics for students.
-  Set a calendar of assignments and due dates for every step of the History Day process.
-  Review the Rule book
-  Finalize the contract (for student and parents to sign), and deadlines schedule.







October

-  Introduce and define the theme. Explain to students how it fits into your class curriculum.
-  Students should begin preliminary research.
 - o Explain research techniques, and hand out research strategy sheets. Research is ongoing at this point.
-  Explain the differences and uses of primary and secondary sources.
-  Guide students toward choosing individual or group projects and which category they want to work in.
-  Work with students to identify and narrow their research topic. Help them ask questions about their topic.
-  Guide students toward quality primary and secondary sources.



November and December

-  Teach students how to analyze sources. Students should continue researching.
-  Give out bibliography sheets with instructions and examples
 - o MLA
 - o Take time to show and practice writing sources in bibliographic form.
-  Work with students on writing thesis statements. Practice formulating and presenting historical interpretations.
-  Students should create an outline for and begin constructing projects in their chosen category.
-  Review process paper requirements.
 - o process paper and annotated bibliography (with at least 5 sources –2 primary, 3 secondary)
 - o Give a due date (ex: end of November)
-  Review project guidelines and judging sheets.

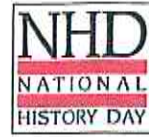
January

-  Assist students with problem solving.
-  Confirm contest dates to ensure you are on target for project completion.
-  Students should complete construction of projects. Teachers should review and give feedback to students.
-  Students should edit and put finishing touches on projects, write process papers, and polish up annotated bibliographies.
 - o Second individual process papers and bibliographies (with at least 10 sources –5 primary and 5 secondary)
 - o Students should aim for 20 quality sources per project by school competition
-  Host school or classroom competitions. Choose students to advance to district competition.
-  Students should edit projects based on judge feedback provided at school competitions.

February - Competition Time!

-  Confirm details for the SCOE competition
-  Registration Closes – January 29

Sample Parent Letter 3



Dear Parent,

All 7th grade Social Studies classes will be participating in National History Day (NHD). We are very pleased to add National History Day to our full 7th grade curriculum. All of the state literacy standards in social studies will be met through the process of creating an NHD project. Teachers will be working closely with the Media Center Specialist and the County Historical Society to help students with research. One class each week will be devoted to NHD work. Your student may choose to create an individual or group project in the exhibit or website category. When choosing a group project please choose group members wisely. Groups may include 2 – 5 students. Group members MUST work together inside and outside of class from September through January. Students whose projects meet all requirements may choose to continue on to the Sacramento County Competition in March.

Project Deadlines

- September 18 – Broad topic due, decision on group members or individual...
- October 2 – 10 notecards due (5 from primary sources and 5 from secondary sources)
- October 23 – Rough draft of annotated bibliography due, 10 sources minimum
- November 6 – Thesis statement; specific topic due
- November 13 – Completed annotated bibliography due
- November 18 – Rough draft of process paper due
- December 16 – Projects due in class
- January – School competition
- March 6 – Sacramento County History Day
- May 6-7 – National History Day - California
- June – National History Day contest

Each of the deadlines prior to December 16th will count as a classroom grade. All assignments will be described in more detail as time approaches. All completed projects will be turned in for a classroom grade and may be entered in the school competition. Accepted projects will be judged at the school competition by county historical societies, local history professors, and members of the community.

More information about NHD can be found at www.nhdca.org. We will be hosting an NHD Parent Night Thursday, September 25th at 6:00 p.m. to give you more information and let you see some examples and resources!

National History Day Introduction Letter September 2015

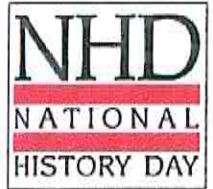
I understand that my child is required to participate in National History Day. I understand that if my child chooses to work with a group they may need to find time outside of school hours to work together on the project.

Group Members _____

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____



History Day Contract

Directions

1. Review the advantages and disadvantages of working alone and in a group.
2. Indicate choices in the box below and sign this contract.
3. Ask your parent/guardian to read this contract and sign his or her name indicating support of your choices.
4. Turn in this complete contract by: **(Insert Date)**

WORKING AS AN INDIVIDUAL

Advantages

- You will increase your independence.
- You will be the sole decision maker.
- You can work when and where you want.
- You will not face differences in opinion and work ethic.

Disadvantages

- You will be responsible for all costs and research.
- You won't use collaborative skills.
- You won't have a partner to motivate you.

WORKING AS A GROUP

Advantages

- You can improve collaborative skills.
- You can share project costs
- You can make decisions together.
- You can draw on one another's strengths and talents

Disadvantages

- You may have scheduling difficulties.
- You may have differences of opinion.
- You may have differences in work ethics.
- You will have to increased communication demands.

I will work:

_____ As an individual

_____ As a Group with _____

I/we would like to research _____

_____ for my History Day project.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Teacher Sign off: _____