

# Beyond Papers: Research Projects

- **Annotated Bibliography:** Students search for a variety of sources on their topic and evaluate them for content and relevance for their topic. Using MLA format, create a working bibliography.
- **Baseball card:** For a fictional character or historical figure, students prepare a card-like flyer (using Microsoft Word or Publisher) including picture, statistics and general information.
- **Biopoem:** Research a person and create a biopoem. Provide clues to the person's identity and allow classmates to try to guess the identity of the person.
- **Brochure:** Using Microsoft Word or Publisher, students create a three-fold flyer to inform the public about a topic or a place they have researched.
- **CD cover:** Students design a cover to represent an event and plan the songs with descriptions. Students decide who would be the significant historical characters that serve as the producer and musicians.
- **Decades Project:** Students select a year between 1960 and 1999. Each student researches political, cultural, scientific, and economic issues for the year. Each student creates a PowerPoint presentation that describes the year. After viewing the presentations, students discuss and select the three most significant people or events of each decade.
- **Diaries:** For a fictional or historical character, students create a diary with entries reflecting the events in their life. (Example: [http://www.geocities.com/janp\\_us/diaries.html](http://www.geocities.com/janp_us/diaries.html) and <http://docsouth.unc.edu/avary/avary.html#avary211>)
- **Letters:** Write a letter to Dear Abby describing an issue. Research the topic and write a response from Abby. Write a letter to the editor scrutinizing a social issue. Write wartime letters from the home front or from the frontlines to a friend or family member. (Examples: [http://www.civilwarletters.com/letters\\_toc.html](http://www.civilwarletters.com/letters_toc.html))
- **Newsletter/newspaper:** Using Microsoft Word or Publisher, students create a newsletter or newspaper set in another time or place. Include classified ads, movie and book reviews, sports stories, and "news" stories as well as relevant pictures.
- **Obituaries & epitaphs:** Select a famous person and create an obituary that highlights their greatest contributions. Create a headstone with an appropriate epitaph.
- **Picture book:** Students explain a concept or event with the emphasis on pictures and captions.
- **Political cartoon:** Students research historical cartoons and create a cartoon that satirizes a current event, political or historic person, or a historical event. (Examples: <http://www.nisk.k12.ny.us/fdr/FDRcartoons.html> and [http://www.archives.gov/digital\\_classroom/lessons/election\\_cartoons\\_1912/election\\_cartoons\\_1912.html](http://www.archives.gov/digital_classroom/lessons/election_cartoons_1912/election_cartoons_1912.html))
- **Recipe for a Historical Event:** Students list the "ingredients" that are needed for the event to occur. Include any special "mixing" instructions and describe the finished "product". (Example: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/guides/social/partII2.pdf>)
- **Resumé:** Using Microsoft Word Resumé Wizard, students create a resume for a famous person and attach a cover letter.
- **Reviews:** Read book or movie reviews and create your own review of a movie or book.
- **Tables or Charts:** Students collect and organize facts on a topic with the objective of comparing their information. They use a chart or table to present their results. For example, the topic of Italian Renaissance artists could be presented through charts to compare the paintings of the artist.
- **Three-Dimensional Object:** Create a 20-sided object that contains one fact or image that describes a person, an invention, a chemical element, etc.
- **Timeline:** Using World Book Timeline Wizard or other software, students research a noted person or event and create a timeline of significant dates.
- **Trip itinerary:** Students studying countries or states prepare a detailed itinerary listing sites of importance, what to pack, money exchange, temperature for the season, where to stay, how to get from place to place, special events, etc. (AAA Tour Books are great resources.)
- **Wanted Poster:** Using Microsoft Word, students create an FBI wanted poster for a literary figure, historical figure, or noted scientist.
- **Web page:** Use Netscape Composer or Microsoft Word to create a web page. It can advertise a business, invention, or present information about a selected topic. Be sure to include date created, authority, and sources of the information.