

Social Studies Fair Due Dates

Hi! We are about to start full swing into our social studies fair! Students may choose their own topic to research for the social studies project. Many students tend to think that a Social Studies research project is "history" related. It is not. It is anything that is culture related-religion, daily life, social groups, economy, government, arts, history, and language. Due dates for each part of the project are included. All of these items that are being listed are a small piece of what students must turn in, so hopefully with completing one small piece each week, students will not find the task cumbersome. This is a mandatory project.

Title/Question Friday, September 6

Purpose/Hypothesis Friday September 20

Background Info Friday, October 4

Methodology and Resources/Procedure and Resources Friday, October 11

Research Paper (must include introduction, 3 body paragraphs, & conclusion) Friday, November 1

Visual Aids/Abstract Friday, November 8

Social Studies Entire Project Wednesday, November 13

Social Science Fair Tuesday November 19

Each piece of the project will be worth one quiz grade. The entire project will be a test grade, which will be graded according to the rubric provided in the packet.

The students will work on their research paper in Language class.

We will be providing a few days during class for research or working on the project, but most of the project must be completed at home. If there are any issues with completing any part of the project at home, please let me know and we will figure out what we need to do. There will be boards available at school if your student needs one.

Thank you for all of your help in this endeavor!

Help session dates are scheduled for Thursday, October 24 and Thursday, November 7. Students should plan to work on their projects during this time. Please have them picked up by 4:30 pm.

Social Studies Fair “Cheat Sheet”

EACH ONE OF THESE ITEMS MUST BE WITH YOUR FINAL PROJECT!!!

Title: What are you researching for your project? The title for the project should come directly from your topic, and should be on the board/poster. Be creative!

Question: What question do you want to answer?

Purpose: Explain why you chose this topic and/or why it is an important topic. This must be on the board/poster. Here is a template you can use:

The purpose of this project is to research ____ (topic/question) ____ . ____ (This topic) ____ is important to me/the world because _____.

Methodology: Step-by-step list of how you researched your topic, including the resources found, which is to be included on your board/poster. Here is a template you can use:

1. I decided to do internet research. I went to google.com and typed this keyword. I found this website.
2. I interviewed this person.
3. I developed this survey and surveyed these people.
4. I went to the library and found this book.

List of Resources/Bibliography: List of books, websites, articles, interviews, etc. from which you gathered information. This list must include title, author, and year. Remember, google (or any search engine) is not a resource; however it may be included as a step in your methodology!

Research Paper: Needs to include the following:

- **Introduction paragraph:** Catch the reader’s attention and draw them into your research paper.
- **Body Paragraphs:** There should be at least 3 body paragraphs in your essay, which include at least 3 main ideas about your topic. Each main idea should be a different paragraph and should be explained within that paragraph in more detail.
- **Concluding Paragraph:** Summarize the information found during your research.

Background Information: This goes on your board/poster. This is the information from your research (the same info from your body paragraphs), and can be in list form or paragraph form.

Conclusion: One or two sentence summary of your entire project.

Abstract: This needs to be on an index card and must be with the project when it is judged. It must include your title, question, methodology, and conclusion of research. Please note that this is a very brief overview of your project!!! Here is a template you can use:

Title

One sentence statement of purpose or question

One sentence summary of Methodology

One or two sentence summary of entire project (like the Conclusion on your board)

Visual Aids: These are the visual items that will be on your board/poster. Visual aids may include but are not limited to: pictures, charts, graphs, and artifacts on the table in front of the project.

Rubric for Social Studies fair Project and Paper

Paper (maximum 40 points)

(may be argument or information/explanatory as defined by GADOE social studies literacy standards)

Statement of research question/problem (maximum 5 points) (5)_____

- precisely stated
- original or explores new aspect of a topic; appropriate to selected discipline category
- neither too limited nor too broad
- establishes local, state, national or international significance of the topic

Methodology (maximum 10 points) (10)_____

- steps in project development follow the norms/conventions of the discipline
- social studies process skills are appropriately applied
- multiple authoritative print, digital, and other primary and secondary sources representing differing points of view are explored

Research Findings (maximum 10 points) (10)_____

- information included is significant, credible, and relevant to the topic
- information included is fair and thorough; there is sufficient data on which to base conclusion
- analysis of primary and/or secondary sources is supported by reference to data or textual evidence in the paper
- plagiarism or overreliance on one source or type of source is avoided

Conclusion (maximum 10 points) (10)_____

- answers the question/addresses the problem

Format/Conventions of language (maximum 10 points) (10)_____

- correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- formal style and objective tone
- use of technology to produce and publish paper
- bibliography in standard citation format)

Section I Total _____

Display (maximum 50 points)

Inclusion of Required Research Components on Display Board (maximum 35 points)

- **Research question/problem used in paper** (maximum 5 points) (5) _____
 - **Methodology correlated with paper** (maximum 10 points) (10) _____
 - **Research findings** in the form of, text, charts, graphs, photographs videos, maps, other illustrations related to research question/problem (maximum 10 points) (10) _____
 - **Conclusion** correlated with paper (maximum 10 points) (10) _____
- Effectiveness of Display (maximum 10 points)** (10) _____

- appropriate choice/correct use of media or format for data shown
- pleasing visual and/or auditory effect
- conscientiousness of workmanship as manifested by accuracy, neatness and craftsmanship
- creativity or originality (including the absence of commercially-prepared models) in the construction, arrangement, and presentation of the materials
- display and other media within size/time specifications (48"W X 30"D X 60" H/10 minutes)

Correct Use of Conventions of Language (maximum 10 points) (10) _____

- grammar
- spelling
- punctuation

Section II Total _____

Project Board Example

	Title	
Purpose	Question	Background Information
Methodology and Resources	Visual Aids (Pictures, charts, graphs, etc.)	Conclusion

Abstract
(Display on a note card)

Research Paper

The abstract and research paper are displayed in front of the tri-board presentation.