

Middle Ages Research Project

400 A.D. (C.E.) until 1500 A.D. (C.E.).



By Royal Proclamation of the 6th Grade Royal Court

Hear ye! Hear ye! Loyal citizens of Emerson Elementary School!

The crown jewel of years at Emerson Elementary School will undoubtedly be your year-end trip to Medieval Times. Here, you will learn about the lifestyles of the members of the royal court.

In addition, you will tour many exhibits in the facility's Museum of the Middle Ages before the main event. The curators of the museum would like to update and expand the exhibits to include several different aspects of life in the Middle Ages.

Your task is to persuade the curators to create new exhibits based on your feedback.

- First, research the topics that you believe are the most important aspects of Medieval life for students to learn about while touring the museum.
- Next, design a convincing presentation of information using the available technology including a digital brochure or a Prezi.
- Finally, share a copy of your presentation with your fellow subjects and the museum curators.

Topics to be considered for new exhibits include:

Life in a Medieval Village

Food

Attire/Clothing

Jobs/Economy

Peasant Family Life/Housing

Pastimes/Entertainment

Royal Life

Entertainment (Examples: jousting and falconry)

Attire/Clothing

Lords, Ladies, Knights

Feasts

Housing/Land Ownership

Art, Architecture and Inventions

Castles and Moats /Cathedrals

Village Dwellings

Artwork

Inventions

Historical Events

The Plague, "Black Death"

The Crusades

The Magna Carta

The 100 Year War

The Spanish Inquisition

You are commanded to choose your top two topics of choice, and your highnesses (a.k.a. your wonderful teachers) will try to honor your request based on the number of people who choose this topic. Details to follow.

Student Expectations

- **Topics**
 - Select your top three choices. Once you are assigned your final topic, choose three subtopics to research.
- **Research**
 - Using the “Topics Choice Sheet” provided, record your topics and the research questions you create. Record this information in NoodleTools.
 - Using the approved websites document from Noodle Tools, gather print and electronic resources.
 - Use “Note Taking Sheet” to gather and organize your research in your own words.
- **Technology Infused Research Project**
 - Design a technology-based research project to persuade the museum curators about your exhibit ideas.
 - Choose one of the following formats to present your research information:
 - Prezi
 - Digital brochure with Hyperlinks
 - Use NoodleTools to create the bibliography
- **Presentation**
 - Present to your assigned group.
 - Present your information in a clear, organized way using appropriate expression and eye-contact.
 - Answer all questions asked by the audience.

Name: _____

Assigned Topic: _____

My chosen subtopics:

1. _____

Research Question: _____

2. _____

Research Question: _____

3. _____

Research Question: _____

4. _____

Research Question: _____

5. _____

Research Question: _____

Detailed Project Descriptions



A. Digital Brochure

(See “How-to” sheet on making the brochure and “How-to” sheet on creating Hyperlinks)

Create a digital brochure with hyperlinks to online resources using Word. Choose a topic of interest and select three subtopics to research in depth.

- Must be colorful and visually interesting (at least one picture on each page)
- Informative
- Organized
- Follows given instructions
- At least four hyperlinks
- Include titles and subtitles and other text features
- Include a separate page for the Works Cited in MLA format



B. Prezi

Design a Prezi of your chosen topic.

- Must include **at least fifteen slides** and no more than twenty, and be about ten minutes in length.
- Must include several images (three or four) for each subtopic.
- May include imbedded video with a voiceover or music.

How to Create a Hyperlink in a Document and Brochure

Type in the word you would like to use as the link (ex. Emerson)

Highlight the word (ex. Emerson)

Right Click on the word and choose “hyperlink”

Cut and paste the URL address into the address box and click “OK”



How do I start?

Step 1—Choose your top two topic choices and submit them on the slip provided.

- When you have been assigned your final research topic, write three research questions (one for each of your subtopics).

Step 2—Begin researching using recommended websites and books. You may also seek other resources, but remember the guidelines for choosing reliable sites. As you research, you must write down your resources and all important information relating to the sources on your source list.

- **Tip:** Try using the search term Middle Ages as well as Medieval.

Step 3—Take notes from each source using NoodleTools. Be sure to paraphrase in your own words. Do not just cut and paste information.

Step 4—Begin drafting your project.

Step 5—Get approval of your brochure or presentation layout ideas.

Step 6—Create a “Works Cited” page using your list of resources.

Step 7—Revise and proofread your first draft into a final draft.

Step 8—Present your project in your assigned group.

Internet Sources to Use:

General Information

<http://www.kathimitchell.com/middleages.htm>

<http://www.learner.org/exhibits/middleages/>

<http://www.lordsandladies.org/middle-ages-timeline.htm>

<http://www.medieval-life-and-times.info/>

Spanish Inquisition

<http://www.thenagain.info/webchron/westeurope/spaninqui.html>

Inventions

<http://www.mnn.com/green-tech/research-innovations/blogs/6->

[important-things-that-were-invented-during-the-middle-](http://www.mnn.com/green-tech/research-innovations/blogs/6-important-things-that-were-invented-during-the-middle-)

clothes, homes, feudal system, arts & entertainment

<http://www.learner.org/interactives/middleages/clothing.html>

plague

<http://www.history.com/topics/black-death>

General – all topics

<http://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/>

To create your “Works Cited” page:

Use this site to create a bibliography – www.noodletools.com

How to decide whether or not websites are appropriate

<p>1. Accuracy of Web Documents</p> <p>Who wrote the page? Can you contact him or her? Is there information on the Web about him or her? Is the person qualified to write this document?</p>	<p>Accuracy</p> <p>Make sure author provides e-mail or a contact address/phone number.</p>
<p>2. Authority of Web Documents</p> <p>Is it a known site? Was it published? Is there copyright information? Is there information that it was published?</p>	<p>Authority</p> <p>Make sure there is publisher/copyright information and a date (usually on the bottom).</p>
<p>3. Objectivity of Web Documents</p> <p>What is the purpose of the site? How detailed is the information? What opinions (if any) are expressed by the author?</p>	<p>Objectivity</p> <p>If the page advertises or discusses religious or persuasive topics do not use. Ask yourself: Why was this written and for whom?</p>
<p>4. Currency of Web Documents</p> <p>When was it produced? Is it current? Are the links inactive or active?</p>	<p>Currency</p> <p>If there are multiple inactive links do not use. If the site was created more than 10 years ago, do not use.</p>
<p>5. Coverage of the Web Documents</p> <p>Is it all images or a balance of text and images? Is the information presented cited correctly?</p>	<p>Coverage</p> <p>If the site requires you to pay before providing any valid information, do not use.</p>

*****HELPFUL HINT: If your site ends in .gov, .com, .org or .edu, they are generally good sites to use!**

Cited from: <http://olinuris.library.cornell.edu/ref/research/webcrit.html>