



4th Grade Research Project:

Current Events

Due Date: Every Friday, February 3 - March 24

Our 4th Grade students have strengthened reading skills by annotating, questioning, and developing their personal analysis of topics we study. Their next step will be an 8 week journey through the world of current events. Students will have the opportunity to discover news that fits their interest, while also learning about the world around them.

1. Research:

Students will find a current news article (2016-2017) which fits into one of the following categories. The article must be turned in with the essay.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Local News | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Science & Math | | |

2. Reflect & Understand:

Students will write a 2-part reflection in response to the article. Students are expected to edit and revise their written work. Grade level vocabulary, punctuation and sentence structure are required.

Part 1: Understand: What is the main idea of this article? Report facts, reserve your opinions.

Part 2: Analyze: How did you respond to this news? How do you think it will impact the community? Do you have any ideas for improvements or changes related to the topic?

3. Culminating Action Plan:

At the end of the 8 week journey, students will create a culminating presentation on one current event issue from their collection. Students will research more sources focused on the issue and think of an action plan to support their cause. In-class lessons on technology, research, and presentation skills will support students as they move forward in this final project.

4. Late Policy:

Any current event article not turned in on the due date will incur a penalty of 10% loss in grade per school day. If the event is due on Friday and returned on Tuesday, the maximum grade you can receive is 80%.

5. Sources:

Parents should help students when accessing news articles. Our goal is not to shelter students from the world around them, but to guide them and make sure they're prepared for what they read. One non-partisan, kid friendly online news source is <https://newsela.com>. Local papers are also great way to explore a variety of news.