

Our Heroes!

# A Biography Project

A TpT Freebie

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# Hero Planning

Name of Hero: \_\_\_\_\_

Informational source(s): \_\_\_\_\_

When and where he or she was born: \_\_\_\_\_

When he or she died: \_\_\_\_\_

What he or she achieved: \_\_\_\_\_

Words that describe your hero: \_\_\_\_\_

What did your hero believe to be important: \_\_\_\_\_

What obstacles did your hero have to overcome? \_\_\_\_\_

How is the world a better place because of your hero's contribution? \_\_\_\_\_

November 2, 2013

Dear Teachers,

I hope you enjoy this project. My students in the past have dug deeper than I dreamed with this project. I also encourage them to go beyond the people that are in this unit. This ties with my Social Studies unit on Law and Values and meets many of the Literacy Common Core Standards.

I am enclosing my parent letter, suggestions for research, as well as a rubric for the written paper and presentation. With my home projects I encourage family participation as they work and learn together.

I hope you, your students, and their families enjoy this project!

Thank You!

Peggy

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People Who Helped Others:

- Clara Barton
- Marie Curie
- Jonathan Gibbs
- George Washington Carver
- Molly Pitcher (Mary Ludwig)
- Annie Sullivan

People Who Stood Up for Civil Rights

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Coretta Scott King
- LeRoy Collins
- Susan B. Anthony
- Nelly Bly (Elizabeth Seaman)
- Barbara Jordan
- John Peter Zenger
- Cesar Chavez

People Who Worked Hard and Persisted

- Thomas Edison
- Amos Fortune
- Orville and Wilbur Wright
- Sacagawea
- Albert Einstein
- Steve Jobs
- Bill Gates
- Helen Keller

People Who Displayed Courage

- Jackie Robinson
- Ian Shepard
- Neil Armstrong
- Sally Rider
- Harriet Tubman
- Lydia Darragh
- Rosa Parks
- Charlotte "Charley" Darkey Parkhurst

People Who Excelled in a Field

- Walt Disney
- Jim Henson
- Wilma Rudolph
- Jim Thorpe
- George Gershwin
- Norman Rockwell
- Jonas Salk
- Hank Aaron
- Jonas Salk
- Langston Hughes

People Who Served Their Country

- General Norman Schwarzkopf
- General Colin Powell
- Any President
- Any Supreme Court Justice
- Speaker of the House

If you have another person that you are interested in researching, please let me know who it is. I would like to see these reports about people that are not the "common" biographies.

# Our Heroes!

Dear Parents,

We are studying Laws and Values in Social Studies and continue to study biographies of the great men and women of the past and present. This project will take the place of most homework during the next two weeks. The research reports are due on \_\_\_\_\_.

We have been looking at people who have made a difference, people that we view as heroes. We will be defining a hero as a person admired for achievements, qualities, or courage. We also discussed how many heroes have had to overcome great obstacles to reach their goals.

Attached you will find a planning sheet for your child's hero research. Remember this is a planning sheet. It does need to be filled out. Your child will use the information from this sheet to assist him/her in creating a written report. Please help your child remember the report must be in their own words.

There will also be a visual required. This can be a poster, a collage, a PowerPoint, or even a diorama. The report will be presented orally in class, so make sure your child takes the time to practice reading through the project before trying to present it. If it is in his/her own words it will be readable to him/her, however, if it is simply a direct copy your child may experience difficulty with the presentation.

I have also included some ideas for research starters. You are welcome to do any of these or anyone else you believe to be a hero. Remember on the planning sheet it does request your information source so it must be researched.

I hope you enjoy this. As I look over the names on the list I remember learning about many of them myself and I truly cherish the value lesson that reading about them taught me. I hope your child will someday look back on this and think the same.

Please have fun with this project as you and your child learn together!

# Our Heroes!

## Presentation Rubric

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hero Researched: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Accomplished 3	Exemplary 4	Score
Preparation	Planning or outline incomplete lacks cited resources	Planning or outline does not represent the final project, resources insufficient / inappropriate	Planning or outline is complete; resources are appropriate and cited	Planning or outline complete and well organized; resources exceed expectations	
Content	May mention key ideas; evidence of understanding is missing or incomplete	States key ideas but seems uncertain what they mean	States key ideas and shows understanding	Key ideas and concepts correctly used demonstrates complete understanding	
Order	Ideas not ordered; difficult for audience to follow	Some order of ideas but does not flow smoothly	Logical sequence of presentation; audience easily follows along	Logical sequence, smooth flow, good overview with transitions	
Visuals	Visuals are missing or do not add to presentation	Visuals present but with little value to overall project	Visuals relate and add value and/or information	Visuals relate, add value, information, help explain and aid in engaging all audience members	
Presentation	Hesitates, whispers, poor eye contact; unable to answer most questions	Some hesitations, but moves along, some eye contact but mostly read direct from report	Clear, appropriate pace and volume; good eye contact; briefly checks notes	Clear, well-paced, good eye contact, well-rehearsed, little need for notes	
Total					

Comments: