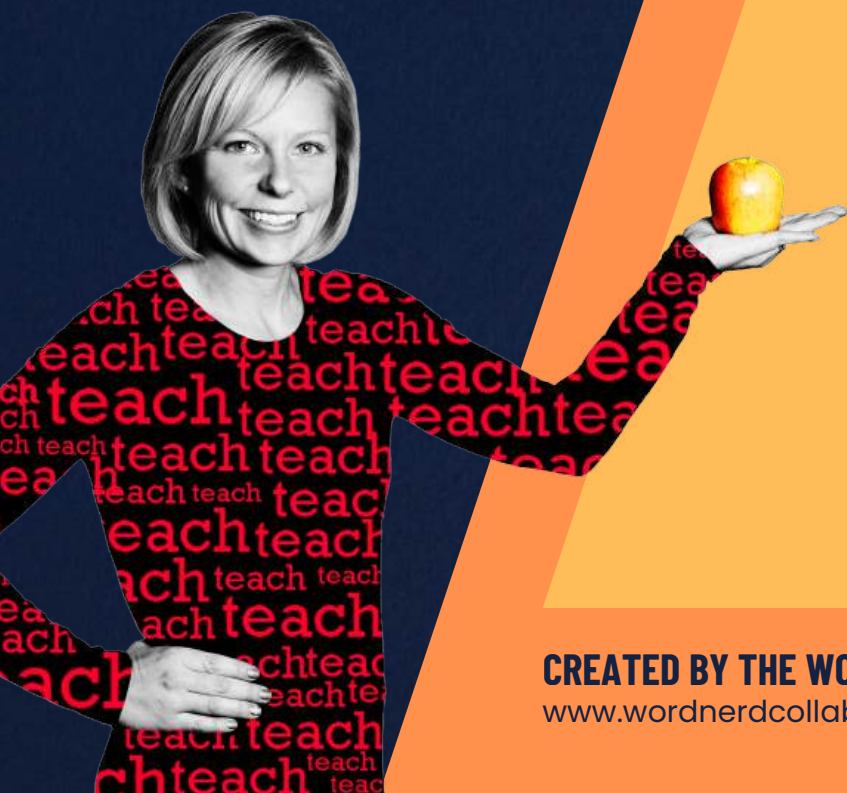




ABC RESEARCH PROJECT



CREATED BY THE WORD NERD
www.wordnerdcollaborative.com

ABC RESEARCH PROJECT

RESEARCH + CRITICAL THINKING + CREATIVITY

Five bucks says that you'll get more than a dozen eye rolls when you utter the words "research project" in your classroom. But what if you could surprise those mood-wielding adolescents and let them pick the topic? Like any topic (save for serial killers... I had to veto that one, one year). What if we let students lean into an already deeply loved subject they desperately want to know more about? Or desperately want to share their knowledge about? What if we could figure out a way to lead them on a passionately curious journey to learn more... one in which they were excited to employ the research strategies and methods we shared with them? Or at least... rolled their eyes less frequently, because the information they were seeking and uncovering was something they loved.

Yeah. Let's do that. :)

Here's how it works:

- Through a few exploratory activities students will identify some areas of interest and then whittle it down to one.
- Students will then research their chosen topic using the library, the internet, and strategies you share in class.
- Throughout the research process, facts will be recorded a variety of ways (see upcoming pages of slides and note taking sheets)
 - Students will then organize the facts alphabetically, listing one fact per letter of the alphabet. (Samples included below)
 - Finally, students will play the role of expert on their topic and share their presentation with small groups, the class or at an open house event with parents & community members.

SOUND GOOD?

GREAT. LET'S DO THIS.



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Resources Included:

- Google Slideshow introducing the assignment and walking you (and students) through the steps. (Peer feedback form can also be found in this slideshow)
- Google Doc of student handouts. You can either share access with students or print copies for them.
- Google Slideshow sample and templates for final ABC Research Project Presentation.
- Rubrics for the paper and verbal presentation can be found on pages 10-12 of this doc.

** All of these are “view only” but all you have to do to edit, share, etc. is click FILE --> MAKE A COPY.

On the next page, you'll see a daily schedule for this project. Not required... just a suggested guideline if you'd like one.

Potential Topic Category Ideas

- Countries/States
- Animals
- Sports
- Famous people/celebrities (both modern and historical - ie: Presidents)
- Styles of Music/Musical Instruments
- Famous places (Mount Rushmore, Eiffel Tower, etc.)
- Movie/Book Franchises (Harry Potter, Star Wars, etc.)



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SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

All classes and students move at their own pace. This schedule is just a suggestion. Move through the content as your students need.

Day 1:

Introduce project using slideshow
Exploratory Research (slides 5-8)

Day 2:

Exploratory Research Page (Slides 9-11 and page 1 of this doc)

Day 3:

Researching and recording (Slides 12-14 and page 2 of this doc)

Days 4-5:

Researching and recording (page 2 of this doc)

Day 6-7:

Researching and recording (slides 15-16 and pages 3- 9 of this doc)

Day 8-10:

Transfer ABC facts to google slide show + creatively design slides (slide 17)

Day 11:

Edit/Revise/Polish slides and practice presentation (slide 18)

Days 12-13:

Present ABC Research Projects (Peer feedback forms on slides 19-20)

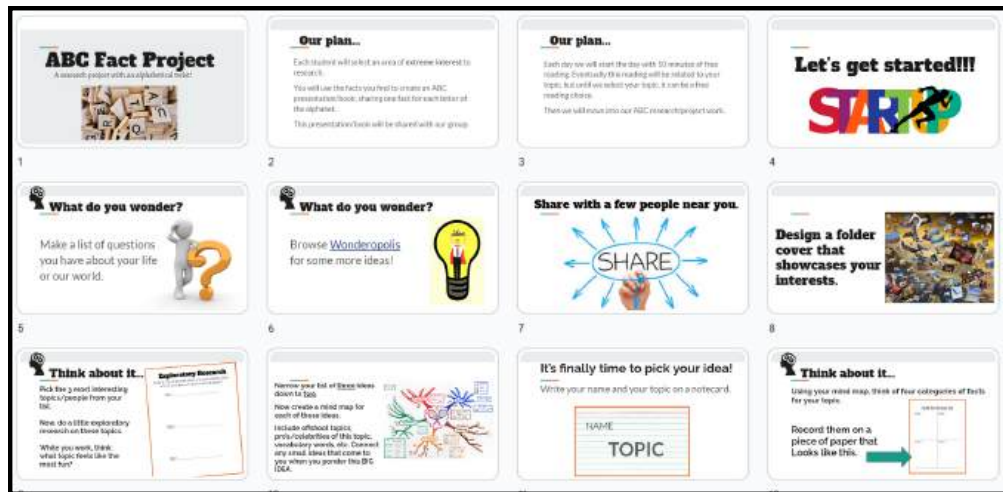
****Rubrics (editable) on pages 10-12**

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SNEAK PEEK OF RESOURCES

Google Slideshow introducing the assignment and walking you (and students) through the steps. (Peer feedback form can also be found in this slideshow)



Google Doc of student handouts.
You can either share access with students or print copies for them.

**** Note, throughout the samples, a variety of levels of complexities (depth of facts, level of citation, etc. are shown. You can choose the correct level of rigor appropriate for your students and communicate that with them.**

ABC Fact Organizer

For each letter, designate an item or topic and then attach a related fact.

FOR EXAMPLE:

A is for Atlantic Puffin.

The Atlantic Puffin is a meat eating sea bird, who can both fly and swim, lives most of its life in the atlantic ocean, but goes ashore to breed.

I is for Iceland.

This bird is commonly seen in Iceland in the spring and summer.

T is for teacup.

The Atlantic Puffin bird is roughly the size of a teacup.

A IS FOR: _____

B IS FOR: _____

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SNEAK PEEK OF RESOURCES

Google Slideshow sample and templates for final ABC Research Project Presentation.



Rubrics for the paper and verbal presentation can be found on pages 10-12 of this doc.

RUBRIC				
TASK/POINTS	1 (ATTEMPTED)	2 (SOLIDLY PRESENT)	3 (EXCELLED)	TOTAL
Exploratory Sheet Completed (x1)				
Fact Category Sheet Completed (x1)				
In the final presentation, facts were clearly communicated with high quality sentence structure. (x3)				
In the final presentation, correct grammar and punctuation were utilized, especially in regard to proper nouns. (x2)				
In the final presentation, the slides with visual representations of their facts. (x2)				
Student clearly cited their information (in regard to teacher directions). (x2)				
+ Student identified a fact for each letter of the Alphabet 24/26				
COMMENTS:				TOTAL:

Verbal Presentation Rubric		Name: _____	
Task	1 points	2 points	3 points
Volume	Speaks unnaturally soft or loud for the role	Usually speaks loud enough for the audience to hear	Consistently speaking loud enough for the audience to hear
Clarity	Many words are pronounced incorrectly or lots of mumbling	Most words are pronounced correctly and easily understood	Words are pronounced correctly and easily understood
Rate	Speaks too fast or slow	Speaks with an acceptable speed	Speaks with a speed that is appropriate for the task
Expression	Reads with little to no expression	Consistently reads with appropriate expression	Excellent expression is evident in many lines and adds to the overall quality of the performance

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As always, if you have any questions, reach out! I hope that your students have fun with this! I know mine always did and hope it will bring the same joy, enthusiasm and skill growth to your classroom.

Happy researching!

~ Amanda

