

Name: _____

Date: _____

Let's Celebrate Explorers!

Task Overview: Working in groups, you will research an explorer and create a holiday that explains the importance of the explorer.

Project Objectives:

- Students will research an explorer.
- Students will connect the actions of the explorers with the motivations for European exploration in general.
- Students will evaluate how the explorer contributed to the Age of Exploration and why his contributions are worthy of celebration.
- Students will persuade others regarding the contributions of the explorer.

Process Overview

- Day 1 - Observe the modeling of the research process.
- Day 1 - Research the explorer.
- Day 2 - Analyze research.
- Day 2 - Create a persuasive presentation for a holiday honoring the explorer.
- Day 3 – Present your explorer to the class.
- Day 3 – Take notes and vote on which explorer will receive a holiday in his name.

Grading

You will receive a grade on your research, creation of holiday, and presentation. Your work will be graded according to a rubric.

For Teachers

Suggested Explorers to assign to student groups:

- Magellan (circumnavigation of globe)
- Hudson (exploration of Hudson River)
- Champlain (exploration of St. Lawrence River)
- Verrazano (exploration of Hudson River, NY Bay, Cape Cod)
- Balboa (first European sighting of Pacific Ocean)
- Drake (more successful circumnavigation of globe than Magellan)

For Day 1 (research and modeling), go to [L3 Explorers Holiday Research Modeling](#) SMART Notebook file

For Day 2 (holiday planning and presentation), go to [L3 Explorers Holiday Planning](#) SMART Notebook file.

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Rubric

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Satisfactory (2)	Unsatisfactory (1)
Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough and complete, sharing from group members • Includes relevant information; excludes irrelevant information • Shared with group members 				
Presentation - Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough and complete • Gives persuasive reasons why the explorer should be honored with a holiday • Provides details about the holiday (name, when, significance of date, how celebrated) • Proportionate participation of all group members 				
Presentation – Language & Visuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one relevant visual per page • Persuasive language • Creative; interesting • Proportionate participation of all group members 				
Presentation to Class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking to the audience; not merely reading the PowerPoint • Adding more information than stated in PowerPoint • Shared responsibility of group members 				

Comments: _____

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Audience Participation

Your job is to make an informed vote about which explorer most deserves a holiday in his name. As you listen to the presentations, take notes about the various proposed holidays. Use these criteria for taking notes:

- Why is the explorer worthy of being remembered and honored?
- How will the holiday be celebrated? Will it be celebrated in a way that recognizes the explorer's importance?

Explorer: _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

Explorer: _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

Explorer: _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

Explorer: _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

Criteria for Effective PowerPoint Presentations

DO'S

- Know what you're going to say ahead of time
- Add information orally that is not in writing
- Look at the audience
- Use cards instead of reading from the presentation
- Speak audibly
- Use a persuasive tone
- Smile!

DON'T'S

- Read your presentation word for word
- Stop when you make a mistake
- Stand with your back to the audience

Name: _____

Date: _____

EXIT TICKET

On a scale of 1 to 5 (least to most persuasive), how persuasive do you think your presentation will be tomorrow? Why?

Name: _____

Date: _____

EXIT TICKET

On a scale of 1 to 5 (least to most persuasive), how persuasive do you think your presentation will be tomorrow? Why?

Name: _____

Date: _____

EXIT TICKET

Who did you vote for? Why?

Name: _____

Date: _____

EXIT TICKET

Who did you vote for? Why?