

America the Beautiful Research Project Information

February 28, 2020

Dear Parents,

Your child has selected the United States landmark of _____ for our 3rd grade research project, America the Beautiful – US Landmarks. We want everyone to be aware of the expectations, at both home and school, as well as the deadlines for this project so there are no last minute surprises! Our project presentation day will take place on May 21, 2020 from 5:00-6:00 pm.

This project has four different parts:

1. The first part of this project is a letter written to the landmark's official visitor's bureau or headquarters requesting information. This letter will be written in class, and we discuss how the letter needs to be written. Stamps and envelopes are provided by St. Timothy's School. We will mail the letters from the school office in early March. This will give the landmark headquarters staff time to read and (hopefully!) respond to the letters so we can start the next phase, the research, in April.
2. The second part of this project is the research component. Students will be learning how to generate subtopics on a research topic in reading in small groups, and they will apply this new knowledge to their landmark projects individually. The teacher will oversee this first phase of this part of the project. We will learn how to find information, paraphrase information found, how to record it (along with the source information), teach students how to complete the research, and provide class time to complete it. All research will be completed in class.
3. The third part of this project is the research report. This will also be completed at school, starting in early May. Students will then work on revising and editing, and we will publish the report at school.

4. The fourth and final part of this project is the presentation, which will be completed at home during the month of May. The students are required to make a visual aid of their choice – we have provided a list of suggestions and guidelines, which is included with this letter. Students may choose from the list, or if they have another idea, it must be approved by the homeroom teacher. The presentation project is due to school on Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

The America the Beautiful presentation day is on Thursday, May 21, 2020. Parents are encouraged to attend in the afternoon from 5:00-6:00 pm. This will be a “project fair” style day where parents can go and see projects from all the classrooms and students will be sharing about their projects to visitors.

This is a culminating activity for the third grade, drawing on skills learned in reading, writing, and social studies that we have been working on throughout the year. Please offer guidance and support to your child as needed, but please urge your child to take responsibility for managing their time and materials as much as possible. We want this to be their own project and we love seeing the creativity students display when they do their own work. We look forward to an exciting and fun project!

Sincerely,

Ms. Burr

Ms. Voorhees

*** Please keep this letter for your records. Thanks! ***