WebQuest Description: Of Mice and Men was written by John Steinbeck and is considered one of the great American novels. Before you can jump into the novel, you must understand some of the issues discussed in the book and the background behind the book. This webquest will help you learn more about John Steinbeck as a person and a writer, migrant workers and the Great Depression.

Grade Level: 9-12
Curriculum: English / Language Arts
Keywords: of mice and men, mice and men
Published On: 2008-08-09 15:51:52
Last Modified: 2008-08-09 15:23:49
WebQuest URL: http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=15534

In this webquest, you will research a topic related to Of Mice and Men and create a newspaper article page to share with your classmates. You will work with a group of 2-4 people, your choice. You have three days in the computer lab. Use your time wisely.

Tasks

You will choose your groups, choose a topic, research that topic through books and provided websites. You will gather information to answer specific questions and turn the answers into a written article to be in a newspaper. The final project must be completed using Microsoft Word or Microsoft Publisher. It will be presented to your class so that everyone can benefit from the information you have found.

Process

1. First you must choose your groups. This is a group project. All groups must have 2, 3 or 4 people. Choose wisely. Tell your teacher who is in your group. 2. Each person must choose a topic to primarily research. Take a look at all of the topics and choose one that looks most interesting to you. There are seven topics total. Each person in the group must choose a different topic. In order to have every topic covered, some topics will not be available to everyone who wants it, so as soon as you choose your topic, tell your teacher. 3. When your topic is chosen, you can start to research and answer the questions found on the bottom of this page. 4. After you have explored the websites and books provided for your topic and answered the questions asked, put the information together in an article. Your article will be included in your groups final project. 5. When you have finished your article, you may begin working on the your product. Your group will design a newspaper. Think carefully about how you want your newspaper to look. 6. Your final product must also contain one of the following items for each person in your group (if you have three people, you must include at least three of the following -- not three of each, just choose three). You may choose from advice column, top box office movies, best seller book chart, advertisements, sports report, classified, other items if approved by your teacher. Any facts that are present here must be realistic to the time from which you project is written. 7. Double check that your project meets all the requirements. 8. Evaluate your work, your group's work, and turn in your project.

Evaluation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category and Score</th>
<th>Beginning 1</th>
<th>Developing 2</th>
<th>Very Good 3</th>
<th>Exemplary 4</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<td>Stated Objective or Performance</td>
<td>Description of identifiable performance characteristics reflecting a beginning level of performance.</td>
<td>Description of identifiable performance characteristics reflecting development and movement toward mastery of performance.</td>
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Congratulations! You have now completed the Of Mice and Men Webquest. You have learned more about things mentioned and discussed in the book and more about the book's author and history. You are now ready to being reading Of Mice and Men. Enjoy!

Conclusion

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Teacher Page

This webquest was designed for 9th grade English students to be finished at the beginning of the Of Mice and Men unit. It was designed to take place over three days in the computer lab. It is a interactive learning tool that allows students to discover the answers to guiding questions and synthesize that information into a newspaper article. By following this webquest, students are knowledgeable about the setting and background issues in Of Mice and Men. Their experiences reading the book will then be richer after learning about the topics in this webquest.

Standards

Credits

Other