

Travel through Time

WebQuest Description: You are going to travel back to where it all started. How was the first President of the United States made President?

Grade Level: 3-5

Curriculum: English / Language Arts

Keywords: President, Vice President, Political Parties, Colonial Times

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Introduction

It is April 30th, 1789. There is a man standing on the balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York, taking his oath of office as the first President of the United States. You are witnessing history in the making! Who is that man? How did he get there?

Tasks

Your task will be to create two newspapers using Microsoft Word. Remember, when you type a newspaper, you need to use columns. The first newspaper will be reporting events from April in the year 1789, and the second newspaper will be events from November through the present day. You will then type a brief comparison of the two newspapers.

Process

Research the links below to answer the following questions: 1. Who was the President in 1789? 2. Who was his Vice President? How was he (the Vice President) chosen? It was done differently in colonial times. 3. Were there political parties in colonial times? Name the most important parties. 4. How many years did the first President serve? How many terms of office did that equal? The first link is to the White House website: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/life/video/index.html> The next link is a site that tells how you become president: http://www.ehow.com/how_136497_become-president-united.html The third link has information on Vice Presidents: http://www.worldbook.com/wb/Students?content_spotlight/presidents/officevp_histvp These last two links contain information on political parties: http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_761558305/Political_Parties_in_the_United_States.html <http://www.mury.k12.ut.us/MHS/apus/handouts/politicalparties.htm> After finding the answers to the above questions (be sure to answer all parts of the questions), create one newspaper from April 1789, and one from November to the present day. Your newspaper must be formatted using columns, and include information from all four questions. Refer (check) your rubric on the evaluation page to make sure you include all that is required. Finally, type a brief comparison (one paragraph) between the two newspapers.

Evaluation

Category and Score	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Very Good 3	Exemplary 4	Score
Newspaper has a realistic and creative title.	Title does not appropriately describe the newspaper.	Title appropriate describes the newspaper, but it is not capitalized or formatted properly.	Title appropriately describes the newspaper and is capitalized and formatted properly, but it could be more creative.	Title appropriately describes the newspaper, is capitalized and formatted properly, and is creative.	%25
The Newspaper uses correctly formatted columns	The newspaper has columns, but they are not formatted.	The newspaper has columns, but they are not formatted correctly.	The newspaper has correctly formatted columns, but the number of columns is not appropriate to the articles.	The Newspaper uses correctly formatted columns, and they are displayed in an appropriate and creative way.	%25

Category and Score	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Very Good 3	Exemplary 4	Score
The newspaper contains information that answers the questions in the process page.	Newspaper only contains information on 1 of the 4 questions.	Newspaper only contains information on 2 of the 4 questions.	Newspaper only contains information on 3 of the 4 questions.	Newspaper contains information on all four questions.	%25
The newspaper has been reviewed using the Spelling and Grammar check tools.	Newspaper contains many spelling and grammar errors.	Newspaper has a few (3) spelling and grammar errors.	Newspaper contains one or two minor spelling and grammar errors.	Newspaper contains no errors in spelling or grammar.	%25
				Total Score	%100

Conclusion

What have you learned on your long journey? Hopefully you have a better understanding of how our Presidents and Vice Presidents have evolved (look up evolved). Write a paragraph that explains three things you learned about Presidents and/or Vice Presidents that you did not already know before you participated in this Quest.

Teacher Page

Purpose/Goals: This WebQuest was created for 5th and 6th grade technology students in the spirit of the November 2008 elections. Students will gain an appreciation of how Presidents and Vice Presidents have evolved over the years. They will learn about the political parties and how they originated, hopefully giving them more tolerance in a time where there seems to be so much party conflict. Students will absorb information and acquire an understanding on the above while searching for answers to four essential questions using four pre-chosen websites. Technology students will also be applying their Microsoft Word skills as they create a Colonial and Present Day newspaper using columns. The newspapers will demonstrate the information they learned in answering the four essential questions. Their newspapers will be graded on 4 specific criteria in the evaluation/rubric page. Skills required of students in using this WebQuest are: Microsoft Word, and more specifically, the skill to formulate columns in Word; familiarity of clicking on web links; the ability to write/type information in response to a question, and compare and explain information. Internet skills are not really needed since the websites have already been preselected by the teacher. This WebQuest was limited to four simple sites to assist the students in finding the information they need without overwhelming them. The web links included on this website are external websites. I would like to commend them for creating such useful web pages.

Standards

Credits

Other