

RENAISSANCE MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION

For the Renaissance Presentation Project you will have the opportunity to explore the Renaissance period in a cooperative and creative way. You will work individually or in a group of up to four (4) students of your choice. You must choose wisely, as this task is your primary way to demonstrate what you can achieve in Social Studies this term. Consider who you work well with and the skills and abilities you all bring to the task. You will be forced to split up if you miss any of the deadlines or goals for the task, or if your cooperative achievement is under 70%. Do not let this happen.

Initial Steps

1. Read through the catalogue carefully. Show it to your family members and close friends. Discuss your options and group members with them. Do not lose the catalogue; it must be returned.
2. Finalize your group.
3. Choose your top three projects – you will most likely have the opportunity to do one of these.
4. Complete a personal academic resume. We will work together as a class so that this document communicates your skills, experience and interests.
5. Write a group proposal letter briefly explaining which projects your group prefers and why you want to do them. Hand this in with all resumes attached. If you are working alone, write a brief letter explaining the same things.
6. Projects will be assigned to groups who hand in their polished proposals on time, and according to group ability and experience, as communicated in your resumes. Proposals will be assessed on *thoroughness, clarity of communication, neatness and polished spelling and grammar* – just as they would be in real life.

DATES OF PRESENTATIONS: Feb 9-11

GIVENS:

- Each person is responsible for 8 minutes of presentation → presentation time must be shared equally amongst group members, as presentation marks are individual.
- A backdrop to your presentation must be produced.
- Interact with the audience in some way that engages them and maintains interest and learning. Consider the following multimedia methods:

– Being in character	– Demonstrations and samples	– Making crafts as a class
– Skits and monologues	– Games and hands-on activities	– Role play with audience
– Video and music	– Class discussion	– Interactive backdrop
– PPT	– Passing around 3D objects	– “Storytime”, gameshow, etc.
- You must have completed your show-and-tell task.

1. The Art of Warfare

Warfare was frequent among the city-states that flourished in Renaissance Italy. From petty battles to full-scale debacles, both on land and at sea, war became an arena for invention and a real art form during the Renaissance. This was the time period that saw the developing use of gunpowder in Europe, the creation of the cannon, the arquebus (ancestors of the rifle), primitive pistols, and a weapon that was the forerunner of the machine gun. The Renaissance introduced the condottieres who were powerful leaders of wandering military units for hire to “protect” towns and city-states.

Famous Faces: Sir John Hawkwood, Braccio da Montone, Muzio Attendolo Sforza, Bartolomeo Colleoni, Niccolò Piccinino, other condottieres of renown

2. Lead a Naval Expedition

Do you have the courage and fortitude to challenge the endless ocean, the edge of the world and the monsters of the unknown? Then you could be the captain of a great and famous expedition. The Renaissance was a time of great exploration throughout the world as countries and states sought fortune, riches and especially the route to the spices of the east. New countries, continents, and civilizations were discovered as men challenged the elements, technology and themselves.

Project Overview:

Devise a journey that will take you and your crew to various parts of the known and unknown world. Based on your research you will have to decide where to go and for what purpose. You must choose a crew, supplies, weapons, and cargo for the voyage, which could last several years. As captain you will have to choose the best ship design and sail technology, convince someone to sponsor and pay for your journey, and decide how to pay your crew. You must decide on a route and season of travel and how you will prepare for and deal with hardships along the way. You must learn to navigate and make maps to keep track of where you are and where you have been. Display your planning, maps and items in a presentation as though you are trying to convince your sponsor of your capabilities.

Famous Faces: Ferdinand Magellan, Francis Drake, Henry the Navigator, Vasco de Gama, Christopher Columbus, Hernan Cortez

3. What Do You Mean I Can't Eat With My Fingers?

The Renaissance was a time when food was considered a sign of wealth and the napkin and fork were just invented. Imagine the table manners! Research what was eaten, how it was eaten, and by whom it was eaten in the Renaissance.

Famous Faces: For your show-and-tell, conduct a cooking demonstration in which you have each selected a different recipe to prepare. Be diverse in your selections and detailed with your props!

4. Renaissance Fashion File

During the Renaissance, Italian and German designers influenced popular fashions of the day. Clothing was the ultimate status symbol of the wealthy. The more elaborate the crafting and cloth of the garment, the more the world was made aware of the wealth of the wearer. The lower classes wore different garments than the rich; in fact, the rulers of the day determined that poor people could only wear one colour of clothing in an attempt to control fashion and keep the social structure intact. Research what fashions developed in the Renaissance for both the upper and lower classes. Be sure to detail a diversity of garments and clothes, and fashion's greater implications on culture and class.

Famous Faces: For your show-and-tell, conduct a Renaissance fashion show. Be diverse in your selections and detailed with your props! Each participant must model as well as narrate.

5. The Healing Touch

The Renaissance was a time of incredible development in the realm of medicine and anatomy. The Black Death and Sweating Sickness ravaged much of Europe and physicians were intent on using any means necessary to find cures. Leeches were used to restore the balance of the blood, alchemists and herbalists concocted a variety of medicinal "cures", and curious scientists performed public dissections – sometimes on live people – to figure out how the human body worked. Research Renaissance means of medicine and healing, as well as developments in understanding the human body.

Famous Faces: Andreas Vesalius, Ambroise Pare, William Harvey, William Clowes, Leonardo da Vinci (in relation to his study of anatomy and medicine)

6. Did Women Have a Renaissance?

Paolo da Certaldo, in about 1320, said, "If the child be a girl she should be put to sew and not to read, for it is not good that a woman should know how to read, unless you wish her to become a nun." Many limitations were placed on the lives of women in the Renaissance. It was a time when women were largely under the control of their fathers or husbands and were often married by the age of 14. They were then expected to produce children and look after the home. Were any women able to overcome these limitations? Research women from the Renaissance who overcame the odds to do or be something that was not expected of them.

Famous Faces: Isabella d'Este, Sofonisba Anguissola, Queen Isabella of Spain, Catherine de Medici, Lucrezia Borgia, Artemisia Gentileschi

7. Power Plays of the Rich and Famous

As the power of the Church diminished, powerful leaders in Italy's city-states consolidated power. It was the time of powerful families such as the Medici, the Sforzas, and the Pazzi, and the political intrigues that were simmering amongst them. Research some of the famous political intrigues of the Renaissance.

Famous Faces: Members of the Medici, the Sforzas, and the Pazzi

8. If You Build It They Will Come

Imagine being chosen to design a new palace or cathedral for a wealthy family, with money being no object. The Renaissance was a time of spectacular achievements in art and architecture as wealthy people offered to pay for the best artistic work they could find. There was competition to paint, create, sculpt, design and build, leaving a legacy for centuries.

Project Overview:

You are commissioned to design a new palace or cathedral for a country or city. After researching basic architectural terms in connection with Greek and Roman architecture, you will examine a variety of monumental and residential structures from Medieval and Renaissance periods. Be prepared to use this research to justify your own design. Then you will plan, design, draw and model the structure that you are commissioned to build. You must consider shape, space, art, geometry, symbols, scale and engineering. Finally you will present your design and model to your patrons for their approval. Display your planning, inspiration, drawings and model in a booth as though you are trying to convince your patrons of your capabilities.

Famous Faces: Andrea Palladio, Donato Bramante, Filippo Brunelleschi, Leon Battista Alberti

9. The Renaissance Landscape

Italy found itself in the right place at the right time. Its government, port cities and mild climate allowed new ideas and commerce to flourish. The Renaissance began in the city-states of Italy, but quickly spread to the cities of northern Europe. Research the European areas that were impacted by the Renaissance, specifically key Italian cities and the northern regions of Antwerp, Amsterdam and London.

- ☐ Use maps and pictures to show the cities impacted by the Renaissance.
- ☐ For each item on your map, research the following:
 - climate ▪ government ▪ economy and trade ▪ famous sites and buildings
 - physical geography ▪ culture → food, clothing, beliefs and behaviors
 - the most famous person of the Renaissance to come from that region

Famous Faces: For your show-and-tell, become a local in one of the cities you researched above. Take us on a tour of your city/region.

10. Renaissance Royalty

As the Church's authority diminished, the age of kings and queens dawned. Their lives are the stuff soap operas are made of! Marriage and mistresses, power struggles and murder – political intrigue at its most interesting. Research the activities (and controversies!) of the European royalty during the Renaissance.

Famous Faces: Henri II of France, Henry VIII of England and his six wives, Mary I, Elizabeth I, Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, King Manuel of Portugal

11. A Renaissance Art Gallery

"Where the spirit does not work with the hand there is no art," believed Leonardo Da Vinci. Renaissance art demonstrates the application of humanist ideals to the pursuit of beauty and artistic achievement. Realism was the key: the Renaissance painter depicted the human figure as realistically as possible, often with backgrounds of the natural world. Science had taught the artist how to show linear perspective--that is, how to represent objects in relative sizes so that smaller objects appear to be farther from the viewer than larger objects. Careful use of light and shadow (called "chiaroscuro") made figures appear full and real. Research the artistic developments of the Renaissance. Use the great artworks of the Renaissance to reveal how these developments impacted the work of famous artists.

Famous Faces: Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Donatello, Giotto, Raphael

12. Life in a Renaissance City

The life of the Renaissance was born in the cities of Europe. It was in an urban environment that great minds came together, works of art were constructed and power plans made. It was also where the average person had to struggle to survive...

Project Overview:

- ☐ Research the layout and design of a Renaissance city. What buildings were necessary? How were they laid out? What considerations were made in regards to sanitation and the spread of disease, transportation, commerce, and meeting the needs of all city dwellers?
- ☐ Now design a Renaissance city of your own. Include everything you have found would be part of a typical city of that era, including dwellings of the rich and poor, churches, shops, streets, theaters, etc. Label each item.

Famous Faces: For your show-and-tell, you will be a city dweller in a specific city in the Renaissance. Take us on a tour of your city, pointing out how it has developed over the years, and the places and details that are important to your life.

13. The Mother of Invention

The Renaissance saw a revolution in the sciences as great minds sought to think, create and analyze. From these minds came the blueprints of numerous scientific theories and inventions. The invisible world became visible, the unknown became known and society would never be the same again. Research the greatest inventions and theories of the Renaissance. Showcase these accomplishments, as well as communicate how our lives have been impacted by these discoveries.

Famous Faces: Galileo, Newton, Copernicus, Kepler, Leonardo da Vinci, Tycho Brahe, Johann Gutenberg

14. The Power of the Guild

The guild system was first designed in the Middle Ages to control the merchant and trade activity of newly formed cities. By the 14th century, the guilds of Florence, Italy were divided into the seven great guilds called the Arti Maggiori (greater guilds) and 14 lesser guilds called the Arti Minori (minor guilds). These 21 guilds comprised only a small percentage of the population and yet held all the power.

Project Overview:

- ☐ Further research the guilds of Florence and other Italian city-states during the Renaissance. What was their purpose? What did they produce? How did they impact the economy and trade? What were their rules and structures? What would life have been like as a member of a guild? What did they mean to the structure of society?
- ☐ Showcase the realities and products of the guilds, as well as communicate the power struggles and accomplishments of which they were a part.

Famous Faces: For your show-and-tell, you will represent an *apprentice* of a specific guild. Discuss life as the newest member of your guild as you reveal your items – daily duties, how it betters your life, makes it more challenging, what has surprised you about it, etc. Consider demonstrating what you’ve been taught of your craft as well.

15. Famous Faces of Philosophy

The Renaissance was prompted by the ideas and writings of the humanist thinkers and writers of the day. They believed that human reasoning and action determined destiny; the documentation of such beliefs has truly changed the destiny of the modern world. Research a number of philosophers and writers from the Renaissance. The number of philosophers should be equal to the number of people in your group.

- ☐ Conduct a discussion of some sort.
- ☐ Your discussion must involve answers to some of the following questions:
 - What is the role of religion? Who is in charge of destiny?
 - What is the role of reason?
 - How important is ancient culture and thought?
 - How important is the printing press?
 - What is the role of women in society?
 - What do I hope my ideas will accomplish?
 - Thoughts about leadership, power, ethics, values, etc.

Famous Faces: Erasmus, Francesco Petrarch, Thomas More, Nicolo Machiavelli, Castiglione, Savonarola

16. Barde In The Yarde

Life as an average person in the Renaissance was difficult, but it doesn’t mean the average person didn’t know how to have a good time! The people of the Renaissance were entertained by many things: stage plays, dance troupes, minstrels, mimes, jesters, and commedia dell ' arte, to name a few. *“If all the world’s a stage...” then why aren’t you on it?* Come on now: entertain us! Research the various entertainments of the Renaissance: sports, activities, theatre, etc.

Famous Faces: William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser, Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson

17. Party Time!

As we have come to understand, life in the Renaissance could be tough. Celebrating seasonal holidays and weddings made life worth living. Aren't you looking forward to Christmas yet? Research the ways people celebrated marriage, seasons, religion and life in general during the Renaissance.

Famous Faces: For your show-and-tell, help us celebrate one of the events you have researched. Describe the purpose and events of the celebration, and then give us the opportunity to celebrate somehow, using party props.

18. Where No European Had Gone Before

One of the key commodities on the Renaissance market was the spices that rich people used to season their food. When Christopher Columbus went off in search of the money and fame that would come from making these rich people happy, he had no idea that he would accidentally stumble upon a whole "New World" of opportunity! Research the Renaissance exploration of the New World (ie. North, Central and South America). What did the famous explorers find upon landing on new shores? What was the result of their discoveries for Europe as well as for the people who already lived in the Americas? Use maps and pictures to show the explorers' routes and discoveries.

Famous Faces: Christopher Columbus, Jacques Cartier, Samuel de Champlain, John Cabot, Amerigo Vespucci, Hernando Cortez

Some suggested resources:

Remember:

- *You will be tracking the sources from which you take your research.*
- *You are responsible for finding sources that are accurate and suitable to your purposes. It is not guaranteed that any of the suggested fit that description!*

The **Mountain Library** will give you access to books, online databases and suggested websites for your research topic.

- Go to: www.mountainlibrary.weebly.com
- On the **homepage**, you will find a button to take you to **Databases**. Here you can try:
 - **The World Book Encyclopedia**
 - **Ebsco Host** (including the **Canadian Student Research Centre** and more)
- On the homepage, you will also find access to the **Library Catalogue** to look for **books** on your topic. We have some excellent print materials.
- On the **Pathfinders** page, there are many links to web pages about the Renaissance to start you off.