Social Studies Research Project June 1st – 12th

Citizens in a democracy have the right and responsibility to make informed decisions. You will make an informed decision on a public issue after researching and discussing different perspectives on this issue.

Project Standards:
SSS1.5.1 Evaluate the relevance of facts used in forming a position on an issue or event.

SSS1.5.2 Construct arguments using claims and evidence from multiple sources.

RI 5.2 Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text.

RI 5.7 Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

RI 5.9 Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

W 5.7 Conduct short research projects that use several sources to build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.

Task: Complete a research essay project supporting a side in the Loyalist or Patriot conflict. Interview family members, watch video clips, visit websites, read articles and take notes. Use only reliable sources. Check our class website for more resources.

As you read and research, write down key words and phrases — complete sentences aren’t needed. Keep close track of your sources by recording author/publisher, date, page numbers and/or specific web address (not just Goggle).

Choose from:
Loyal to the King of England or Patriotic to the American colonies

Focus: mastering the multi-paragraph essay structure.

Our structure is:
Introduction paragraph
3-5 reasons paragraphs
Closing paragraph that connects the introduction but in different words

Use colors/designs, advanced word choice, and YOUR own words (do NOT copy/paste),
My support goes to: _____ pick loyalist or patriot ________

Describe your side. What is it and what caused people to support this?

______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________

Paragraph 2:

Reason # 1
Why do you support this side? Include
Catchy introductory sentence for your report:

Closing Sentence: invite the reader to understand your reasons. As they read further, they will find evidence in the form of quotes, facts, and details.
Paragraph 2: reason # 1. (example: tradition, we have family in England!)

Topic Sentence for reason # 1: (Example: My first reason for being loyal to the King has to do with tradition and family.)

Detail or fact that matches reason # 1: ____ (Example: Colonists have always been English!)

Quote or facts that supports reason # 1: ____ (Example: Many colonists grandparents and cousins were all living in England.)

Explain the quote or facts:
(Example: Even speaking English begs the question How could they be anything else?)

Closing Sentence that supports reason # 1: (example: As you can see, tradition and family are close ties that connected the colonist with England, helping them remain loyal to the King.)
Paragraph 3: Reason # 2 Why do you support this side? Include evidence (facts, details, quotes) and explain.

Topic Sentence for reason # 2:

Detail or fact that matches reason # 2:

Quote that supports reason # 2:

Explain the quote or facts:

Closing Sentence that supports reason # 2:
Paragraph 4: Reason # 3 Why do you support this side? Include evidence (facts, details, quotes) and explain.

Topic Sentence for reason # 3:

Detail or fact that matches reason # 3:

Quote the supports reason # 3:

Explain the quote or facts:

Closing Sentence that supports reason # 3:
Paragraph 5: Closing Paragraph—Sum up everything you have written about. Mention one key point from each paragraph.

Topic Sentence:

Reason # 1:

Reason # 2:

Reason # 3:

Closing Sentence:
You may include more paragraphs for additional reasons as needed.

**Additional Text Features**—Choose at Least 3 to add to your Essay.

_____ Cover page  
_____ Table of Contents  
_____ Chart/Table  
_____ Photograph with Caption  
_____ Diagram with labels  
_____ Map  
_____ Graph (Timeline of events)  
_____ Illustration  
_____ Glossary  
_____ Fact box

**Research Sources**  
(you keep track!)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th><strong>Type</strong>: Book, Magazine, Website, Video, Interview</th>
<th>Author/Publisher</th>
<th>Pages or Specific web address (not just Google)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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# You Decide Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opinion</strong></td>
<td>I clearly stated an opinion on a public issue and concluded with a call to action</td>
<td>I clearly stated an opinion on a public issue</td>
<td>I stated an opinion on a public issue</td>
<td>I did not state an opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stakeholders</strong></td>
<td>I explained stakeholders’ positions on this issue using text-based facts and details: Three or more stakeholders’ positions on this issue.</td>
<td>I explained stakeholders’ positions on this issue using text-based facts and details: Two stakeholders’ positions on this issue.</td>
<td>I explained stakeholders’ positions on this issue using text-based facts and details: One stakeholder’s position on the issue.</td>
<td>I provided text-based facts and details without explaining any stakeholders’ position on the issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evidence</strong></td>
<td>I provided logically ordered reasons for my opinion supported by evidence from primary source documents. The facts and details (evidence) include: An explanation of how a right relates to my opinion on the issue. AND An explanation of how the common good relates to my opinion on the issue.</td>
<td>I provided logical reasons for my opinion supported by evidence from primary source documents. The facts and details (evidence) include: An explanation of how a right relates to my issue. OR An explanation of how the common good relates to my opinion on the issue.</td>
<td>I provided reasons for my opinion without any supporting evidence (facts and details). AND I provided evidence (facts and details) from primary source documents. My evidence did not support my opinion.</td>
<td>I provided reasons for my opinion without any supporting evidence (facts and details). OR I provided evidence (facts and details) without any reasons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sources</strong></td>
<td>I can list three or more sources, including the title, author, publisher, city, date, and URL (if digital) of each source.</td>
<td>I can list two sources, including the title and author of each source.</td>
<td>I can list one source, including the title and author.</td>
<td>I can list the sources, but did not include both the title and author of each source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ELA Citations</strong></td>
<td>I can cite three or more sources within the paper or presentation from the works cited page.</td>
<td>I can cite two sources within the paper or presentation from the works cited page.</td>
<td>I can cite one source within the paper or presentation from the works cited page.</td>
<td>I vaguely referred to sources within the paper or presentation.</td>
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**No Score (NS)** is given if the work is unintelligible; in a language other than English; off topic; off purpose; or copied.