

Social Studies Fair
Project Presentations
Workshop 7th-8th

www.selu.edu/ssfair

Social Studies Fair Projects

- selecting a discipline and the GLE (SS)
- Selecting a topic and title
- Research and GLE (ELA)
- Research paper and GLE (ELA)
- Oral Presentation and GLE
- Display board

Disciplines: Anthropology

- concerning how culture has developed by people living and thinking together.
- Examples are Ancient civilizations, Native Americans, customs, festivals, types of shelter and food, religion, etc.

Economics

- concerning the utilization of the natural environment to produce the goods and services needed by man.
- Examples are money, manufacturing, trade, transportation of goods, services, communication, inflation, stock exchange, Common Market, government budgets, etc.

Economics/ 7th and 8th Grade

GLE Examples

- 7th: focus on mercantilism in colonies
- 7th: (under geography) Compare the interdependence of Great Britain and the American colonies to the global economy today
- 8th: Describe the influence/impact of inflation or unemployment on different groups of people (e.g., consumers, business owners)

Geography

- concerning the relationship between man and his natural environment.
- Examples include ecology, foreign countries, lands and peoples, maps, flooding, rivers, lakes, cities, conservation, etc.

Geography/ 7th Grade GLE Example

- Explain how the different physical environments in the American North and South led to different economic activities

Geography/ 8th grade GLE

Examples

- Explain how or why specific regions are changing as a result of physical phenomena (e.g., changes in the coastal wetlands)
- Identify and describe factors that cause a Louisiana region to change (e.g., natural occurrences, disasters, migration)
- Explain why humans settled and formed societies in specific regions or why immigrant groups (e.g., Acadians) settled in specific areas of Louisiana

History

- concerning the written story of man and the development of civilizations.
- Examples include historical events and trends, wars, diplomacy, politics, religious institutions, biographies, etc.

History/ 7th grade GLE Examples

- Construct and interpret timeline in U.S. history from 1763 to 1877
- Compare and contrast two primary sources related to the same event in U.S. history
- Propose and defend an alternative course of action to a given issue or problem in U.S. history

History/ 7th grade GLE Examples

- Conduct historical research using a variety of resources, and evaluate those resources for reliability and bias, to answer historical questions related to U.S. history
- Explain how the American Revolution affected the **politics**, society, and **economy** of the new nation
- Focus on U.S. history

History/ 8th grade GLE Examples

- Construct and interpret timeline in La. History
- Conduct historical research using a variety of resources, and evaluate those resources, to answer historical questions related to Louisiana history
- Focus on Louisiana

Political Science/Civics

- concerning principles, organization, and methods of government.
- Examples include government agencies, constitutions, courts, international agencies, FBI, CIA, etc.

Political Science/ Civics: 7th grade GLE Examples

- Various forms of government, monarchy, etc.
- Three branches of government and checks and balances
- Examine a given law or court ruling and evaluate it based on given criteria (e.g., Dred Scott decision) (careful to focus on political science and not just history)

Political Science/Civics: 7th grade GLE Examples

- Identify types of foreign policy issues with reference to current and historical examples (e.g., Middle East conflicts)
- Focus on United States

Political Science/Civics: 8th grade

GLE Examples

- Focus on state level: Louisiana
- Describe the role of the Electoral College and how Louisiana participates in that system
- Explain the role of nation-states in various alliances and international organizations (e.g., NATO, the United Nations, OPEC) and identify effects of their decisions upon Louisiana
- Explain how U.S. foreign policy has affected Louisiana (e.g., tariffs, NAFTA)

Sociology

- concerning people living in groups.
- Examples include the family, crime, mental health, lifestyles, media, drug abuse, etc.

Selecting a discipline: For example: Native Americans

- examine the history of Native Americans (history),
- how they earned their living (economics),
- their customs (anthropology),
- how they lived together (sociology),
- government policy toward Native Americans (political science),
- or where they lived (geography).

Selecting a Topic and Title

- Must have a relationship to man
- Don't make the topic too broad or too specific
- Should be interesting for the student
- Try to spread out the disciplines and not have every project in History
- Title should be concise and spark interest

Secondary Research Sources

- First students need to consult secondary sources for general information
- Encyclopedias
- Atlas and Almanacs
- Textbooks
- Yearbooks and handbooks
- Biographical dictionaries

Primary Research Sources

- Newspapers, magazines, published letters, memos.
- Unpublished manuscripts (wills, letters, deeds, church minutes, diaries)
- Government publications (international, national, state, local)
- Oral interviews, polls and questionnaires, photographs, sound recordings, films, speeches
- Current biography

GLE/ELA Research 7th grade Information Resources standard 5

- Locate information using:
- complex reference sources (e.g., almanacs, atlases, newspapers, magazines, brochures, map legends, prefaces, appendices)
- frequently accessed and bookmarked Web addresses
- features of electronic texts (e.g., hyperlinks, cross-referencing, Web resources, including online sources and remote sites)

GLE/ELA Research 7th grade Information Resources standard 5

- Locate information using:
- multiple printed texts (e.g., encyclopedias, atlases, library catalogs, specialized dictionaries, almanacs, technical encyclopedias)
- electronic sources (e.g., Web sites, databases)
- other media sources (e.g., audio and video tapes, films, documentaries, television, radio)

GLE/ELA Research 7th grade Information Resources standard 5

- Gather information using:
- Surveying, interviewing and paraphrasing
- Generate grade appropriate research reports that include information presented in a variety of forms, including:
 - visual representations of data/information
 - graphic organizers (e.g., outlines, timelines, charts, webs)
 - works cited lists and/or bibliographies

GLE/ELA Research 7th grade Information Resources standard 5

- Use word processing and/or other technology to draft, revise, and publish a variety of works, including reports and research documents
- Give credit for borrowed information following acceptable use policy, including:
 - integrating quotations and citations
 - using end notes

GLE/ELA Research 7th grade Information Resources standard 5

- creating bibliographies and/or works cited lists
- Interpret information from a variety of graphic organizers including timelines, charts, schedules, tables, diagrams, and maps in grade appropriate sources

GLE/ELA Research 8th grade Information Resources standard 5

- Locate information using:
- complex reference sources (e.g., almanacs, atlases, newspapers, magazines, brochures, map legends, prefaces, appendices).
- frequently accessed and bookmarked Web addresses
- organizational features of electronic information (e.g., Web resources including online sources and remote sites)

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Social Studies Research Paper

- Title Page-no name or school listed
- Table of Contents
- Abstract: Brief summary of the content, purpose and references sources (View the Bulletin for an example)
- Body of Paper
- Conclusion: what the student discovered or learned
- Bibliography
- Can be handwritten or typed (prefer typed)

GLE/ Research Paper 7th grade

Writing standard 2

- Write multiparagraph compositions on student- or teacher-selected topics organized with the following:
 - established central idea
 - organizational patterns (e.g., comparison/contrast, order of importance, chronological order) appropriate to the topic
 - elaboration (e.g., fact, examples, and/or specific details)

GLE/ Research Paper 7th grade

Writing standard 2

- transitional words and phrases that unify ideas and points
- overall structure including an introduction, a body/middle, and a concluding paragraph that summarizes important ideas and details
- Organize individual paragraphs with topic sentences, relevant elaboration, and concluding sentences

GLE/ Research Paper 7th-8th grade

Writing standard 2

- Develop compositions by identifying and applying writing processes, such as the following:
 - selecting topic and form
 - prewriting (e.g., brainstorming, researching, raising questions, generating graphic organizers)
 - Drafting and conferencing (e.g., peer and teacher)
 - revising based on feedback and use of various tools (e.g., LEAP21 Writer's Checklist, rubrics)
 - proofreading/editing

GLE/Research Paper 7th grade

Proofreading Standard 3

- Use standard English punctuation, including:
 - commas to set off direct quotations, nouns of direct address, and after introductory words or phrases
 - semicolons or colons to separate independent clauses
 - sentences without double negatives

GLE/ Research Paper 8th grade

Writing standard 2

- Write complex, multiparagraph compositions on student- or teacher-selected topics organized with the following:
 - a clearly stated focus or central idea
 - important ideas or events stated in a selected order
 - organizational patterns (e.g., comparison/contrast, order of importance, chronological order) appropriate to the topic

GLE/ Research Paper 8th grade

Writing standard 2

- elaboration (anecdotes, relevant facts, examples, and/or specific details)
- an overall structure (e.g., introduction, body/middle, and concluding paragraph that summarizes important ideas and details)
- Organize individual paragraphs with topic sentences, relevant elaboration, and concluding sentences

GLE/Research Paper 8th grade

Proofreading Standard 3

- Use standard English capitalization and punctuation consistently
- Write paragraphs and compositions following standard English structure and usage, including:
 - varied sentence structures and patterns, including complex sentences
 - phrases and clauses used correctly as modifiers

Oral Presentation (3 min.)

- What to do: VERY IMPORTANT: KNOW YOUR TOPIC!
- Keep eye contact with judges.
- Stand on both feet.
- Dress neatly. Don't wear school uniforms.
- Stay within the time limit.
- Integrate the display into the presentation.
- Use conversational speech.
- Relax, speak slowly and clearly.

Oral Presentation

- What NOT to do:
- Chewing gum or tobacco
- Moving nervously
- Standing in front of or obscuring the project
- Using note cards or notes
- Putting hands in pockets
- Wearing heavy jewelry or distracting clothing

GLE/ Oral Presentation

7th grade Standard 4: Speaking and Listening

- Organize oral presentations with a thesis, an introduction, a body developed with relevant details, and a conclusion
- Deliver grade appropriate research based presentations

GLE/ Oral Presentation

8th grade Standard 4: Speaking and Listening

- Organize oral presentations with a thesis, an introduction, a body/middle developed with relevant details, and a conclusion

Display Board

- 36 inches wide and 30 inches deep. It cannot weigh over 100 pounds or be taller than 100 inches, nothing under table
- Be creative
- Use Charts, Documentaries, Murals, student drawn Maps, Statistical analysis, Diagrams, Photographs, Graphs, surveys
- Can use audio equipment but student must supply

Submission of Projects

- You can submit your entries online or through the mail: www.selu.edu/ssfair
- How many can we submit? For example, a Division II school (7th-8th) may submit up to 12 projects. The ideal is 1 Individual and 1 Group for each Discipline. No more than 4 in any one discipline.
- A Division I and II or II and III school may submit up to 24 projects.
- Please read the Bulletin for more information, a checklist and rules for the Regional Fair.