

Mathematicians Project Information Sheet

Mathematicians are not often listed among the most famous people in the world. Their work often goes unnoticed (sometimes they are listed as scientist and we forget about how important math is in and with science!!). Without these great mathematicians, however, we could not reach the moon, know the earth is round, figure out how to build skyscrapers, and explain many of the things that happen around us. Our project will give us a chance to look at some of the amazing things that mathematicians have done and discovered throughout history. Your objective is to research a famous mathematician and discover his or her achievements and contributions to society.

This project consists of three parts:

1. Research

2. Visual Component

3. Oral Presentation

Research

- ❖ You will use at least one book (if available) and any valid website. There are websites listed below that may help you. You must use at least three resources.
- ❖ You will record all of your findings in Microsoft Word or neatly handwritten and cite your references. You will turn in your research notes using email or hand delivered to me on or before your due date.

Visual Component

- ❖ Select one of the following as your final project:
 - A. **MOBILE**—Create a hanging mobile that tells the story of your mathematician’s life. Each shape on the mobile should represent one part of the “Let Me Introduce...” research form. Pictures or writings on each shape should explain important parts of your biography.
 - B. **ORAL REPORT**—Dress up as the person you are assigned. Tell your life story in a creative way using scenery and/or props.
 - C. **PUPPET SHOW**—Write a script featuring two or three scenes of interesting stages in your mathematician’s life. Include a narrator to fill in additional information. Check the library for ideas for making the puppets, stage, and scenery.
 - D. **TV SHOW**—Write a script and produce a TV show about your mathematician. Sit-coms, quiz shows, and talk shows are ideas you might consider. Costumes, scenery, and props will be needed.
 - E. **COMPUTER/INTERNET APPLICATION**—Using Microsoft PowerPoint, PowToon.com, Animoto.com, Prezi.com, or any visually appealing site, use pictures, words, maps, sounds and symbols to create a presentation about your mathematician.
 - F. **COLLAGE**—Use pictures, words, maps, and symbols to create a large collage about your mathematician. Use this to give an oral presentation to the class.
 - G. **GAME** – Create a game based on facts about the mathematician’s life. The game must include an instruction book explaining how to play and how to win, number of players, a step-by-step guide and the aim of the game.
- ❖ Your VISUAL component MUST include all 8 sections from the “Let Me Introduce...” sheet.
- ❖ Your visual component should be neat, visually appealing, cohesive, not too wordy, and free of spelling errors. The dictionary is your friend.
- ❖ All of the information should be important and relevant.

Oral Presentation

- ❖ You will be giving a short (3 to 8 minutes) presentation to the class using your visual component.
- ❖ This presentation should be directed to the other students in the class and should involve more than reading of the slides. You will need to explain each slide briefly (**DO NOT** read the slide or screen—we can read).

Please see the rubric for more detailed expectations and how your project will be graded. Refer to the information sheet and the rubric throughout the course of the project.

Please save all notes and research as `LASTname_FIRSTname_Core#_MathematicianName`.
For example: `Wright_Mya_Core1_MadameCJWalker`

→ Helpful Web Links ←

Women Mathematicians

<http://www.agnesscott.edu/lriddle/women/women.htm>

Black History Pages

<http://blackhistorypages.net/contents.php>

A Modern History of Blacks in Mathematics

<http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/madhist.html>

Black Women in Mathematics

<http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/wohist.html>

Biography

<http://www.biography.com/>

Biographical Dictionary

<http://www.s9.com/>

Encyclopedia Britannica's Guide to Black History

<http://www.britannica.com/blackhistory/browse?browseId=252286>

Distinguished Women of Past and Present

<http://www.distinguishedwomen.com/subject.php>

Female Mathematicians

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_female_mathematicians

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND OTHER MINORITY AND ETHNIC GROUPS TO MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

<http://www.ms.uky.edu/~lee/minority.html>

Famous Scientists

<http://www.famousscientists.org/about/>

****Citation Machine** (Help with your References/Bibliography)

<http://citationmachine.net>

LET ME INTRODUCE...

DUE DATE _____

Take notes on the following outline to research your mathematician. (To be turned in)

A. Vital Statistics

- i. Name _____
- ii. Lifespan _____
- iii. Birthplace _____
- iv. Age at Death _____

B. Three historic world events that occurred during his/her life.

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____

C. Education

D. Marital and Family Status

E. Occupation(s)

F. Three Contributions to Mathematics

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____

G. Two interesting events from his/her life

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____

H. Bibliography

- i. _____
- ii. _____
- iii. _____