

Name _____

Date _____

Historical Research for National History Day

Follow along and take notes about the historical research process for National History Day. Think about your topic as you answer the questions.

1. My National History Day topic is: _____

2. **My Topic:** Good NHD topics are narrowed down to a specific topic and have a strong connection to the NHD theme. Describe each of the following related to your topic.

My specific NHD topic is:	
My connection to the NHD theme is:	

3. **Primary and Secondary Sources:** You will need BOTH primary and secondary sources to create your National History Day project. Define each term in your own words.

Primary Source:	
Secondary Source:	

4. **Examples of Sources:** There are many different types of primary and secondary sources you could use for your project. List four examples of each.

Primary Sources Examples

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Secondary Source Examples

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

5. **My Sources:** The sources you will find depend on your National History Day topic. Think about your topic and brainstorm the types of sources you might find related to it.

Potential Types of Primary Sources

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Potential Types of Secondary Sources

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

6. **My Sources:** You are expected to find resources both online and _____ for your National History Day project. The quality of your research is worth _____ of your National History Day evaluation!

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7. **Finding Information:** There are many places you can look for information – both online and offline. These places will depend on your topic and where you live. Brainstorm general places to find information and then specific places that YOU might look for information on your topic.

General Places to Find Information

Specific Places I Might Research My Topic

1. _____

1. _____

2. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. _____

4. _____

4. _____

8. **Places to Visit on the Web:** There are many sources for information on the Internet. Here a few that you should be sure to check out. Place a **check mark** next to those you have already searched.

- Google Books (<http://books.google.com>)
- Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com>)
- Internet Public Library (<http://www.ipl.org/>)
- BadgerLink – Access Newspaper Archive (<http://www.badgerlink.net/>)
- BadgerLink – EBSCO Search (<http://www.badgerlink.net/>)

9. **Evaluating Websites:** Not all of your Internet search results will be good websites for historical research. What are three things you should think about when deciding to use a website?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

10. **What Now?** Finding the information is just the first step. Once you've found a source, what should do you do with it?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

11. **My Research:** Think about the research you have already done and answer the following questions:

a. The most interesting source I have found is _____

c. I would like to find _____

d. The biggest problem I'm having with my research so far is _____
