Raising Researchers





A Parent's Introduction to

Independent Investigation Method (IIM)

and

Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP)



Leon Sablatura Middle School
Pearland Junior High West

October 27, 2026

What is the TPSP?



The goal of the Texas Performance Standards Project (TPSP) is for students to create professional quality work in alignment with the ***Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students***.

The TPSP enables students to become thinkers and scholars. Students are challenged to think critically, abstractly, and logically. Students synthesize new information and comprehend different points of view. They also learn to communicate effectively and clearly in written and oral forms.

Texas Education Agency

STATE GOAL FOR SERVICES FOR GIFTED/TALENTED STUDENTS

Students who participate in services designed for gifted/talented students will demonstrate skills in **self-directed learning**, **thinking**, **research**, and **communication** as evidenced by the **development of innovative products** and performances that reflect individuality and **creativity** and are **advanced** in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted/talented students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

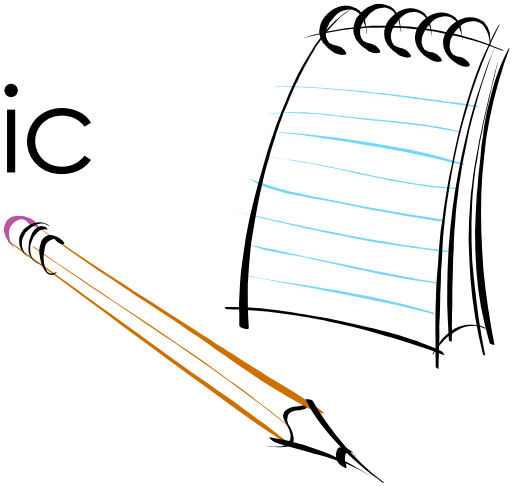
All students can do research!

Using IIM, students will learn that:

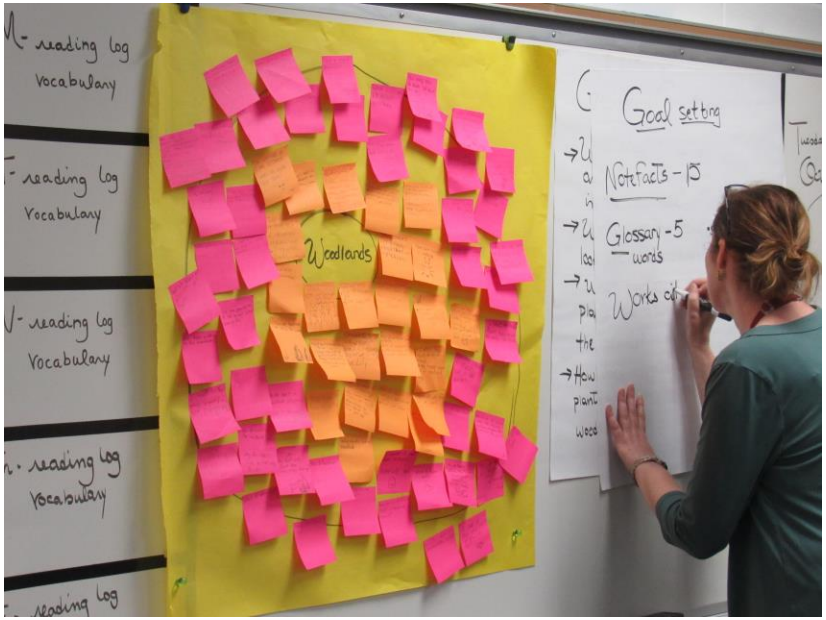
- Research is a **sequential process.**
- Research is used to **answer questions.**
- There are many **sources** of information.
- Sources must be cited using a standard format for their **bibliography.**
- They need to put information in their **own words.**
- Information must be **organized** for use in a product.
- They will **share** what they have learned with an audience.


7 STEPS TO SUCCESSFUL
RESEARCH
1
TOPIC
Choose What to Study
• What do you already know?
• What do you want to find out?
2
GOAL SETTING
Make a Plan
• Set goals for your project
• Check on teacher requirements
3
RESEARCH
Discover the Facts
• Use many resources
• Cite your sources and record your notes
4
ORGANIZING
Build a Framework from Your Notes
• Put your notes into categories
• Analyze and interpret your findings
5
GOAL EVALUATION
Check Your Goals
• Look back at Step 2
• How did you do?
6
PRODUCT
Create Something New
• Time to write your paper
• Make a product to share what you learned
7
PRESENTATION
Showtime!
• Who's the audience?
• Present what you know
IIM Independent Investigation Method

Step 1: Topic



Researchers record information they already know (facts) and things they want to learn (questions) about a topic they have chosen or have been assigned.



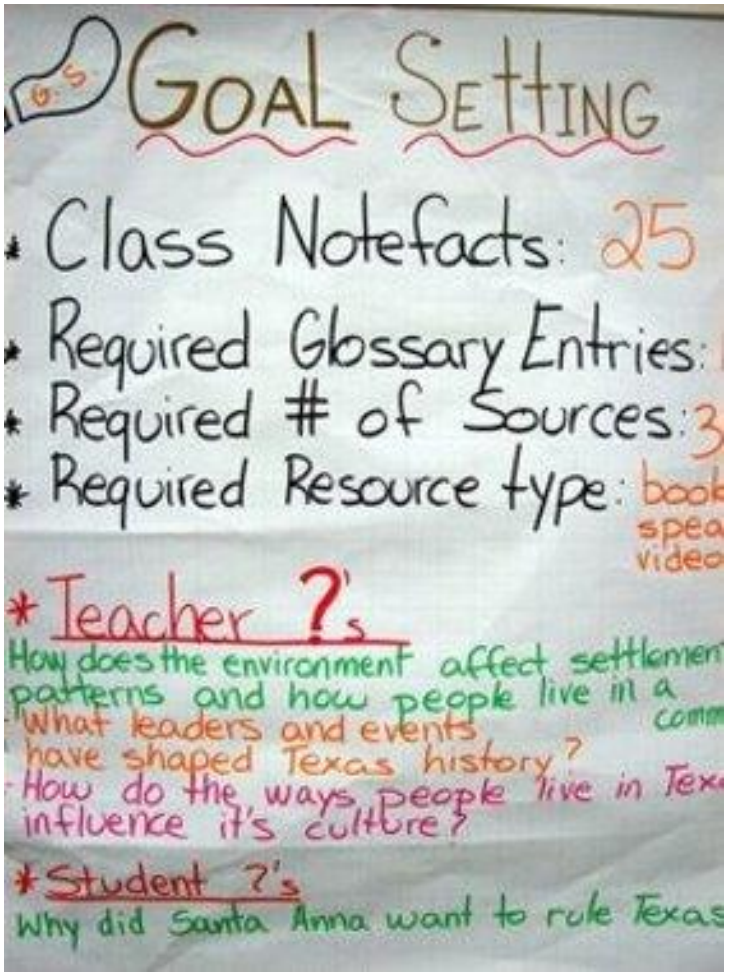


Step 2: Goal Setting

Researchers set goals by developing questions to guide their study.

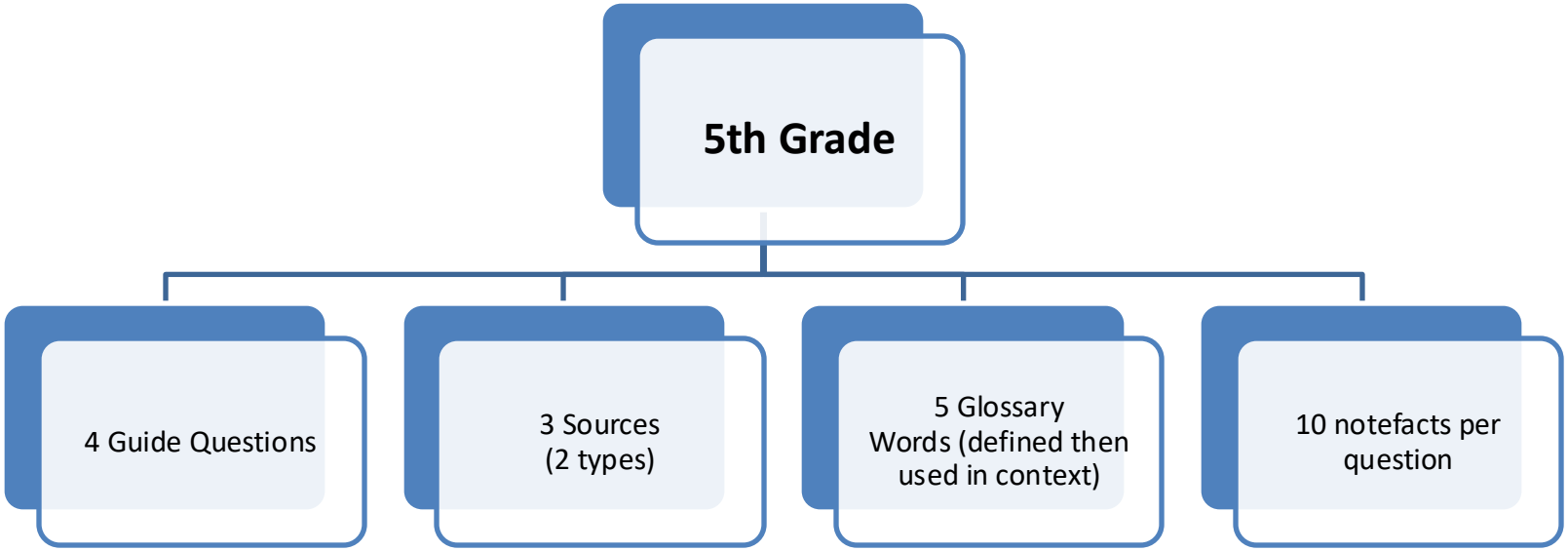
Other goals might include:

- time management plan,
- key vocabulary,
- types of sources, and
- amount of information.



TPSP Goals

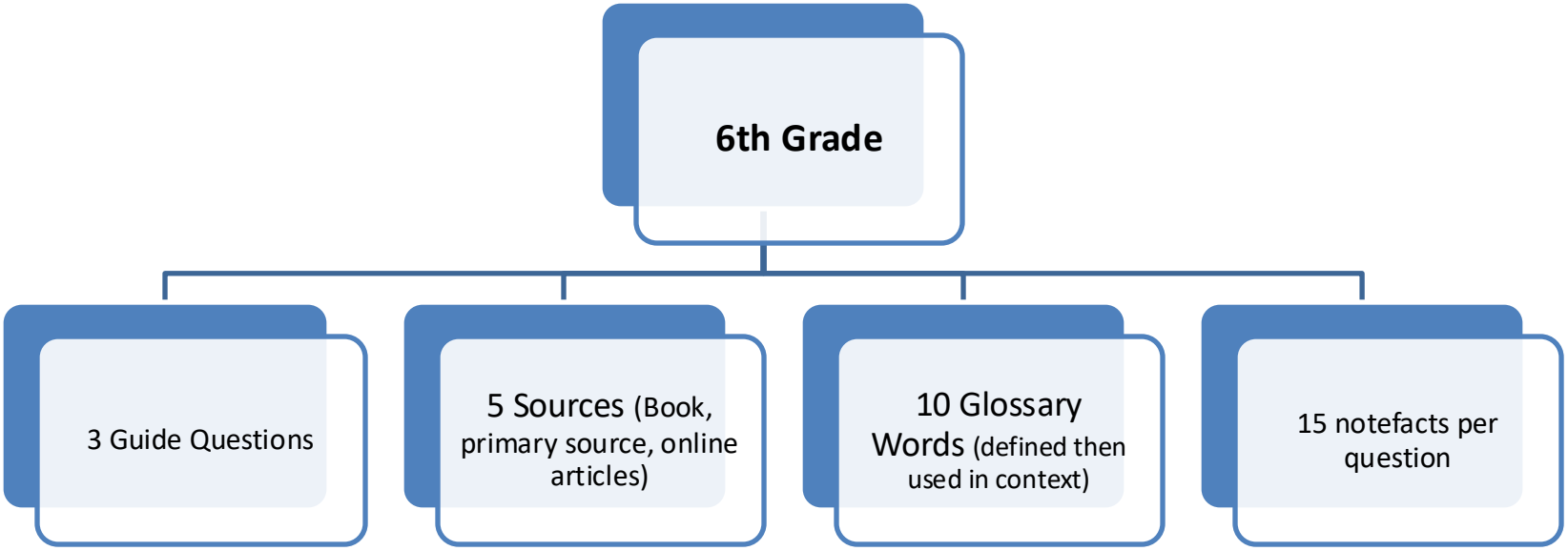
For students to be prepared to write a strong research paper and present their product at the GTA Showcase in May, the following goals are minimum expectations.



**Most research papers will be 2-3 pages.*

TPSP Goals

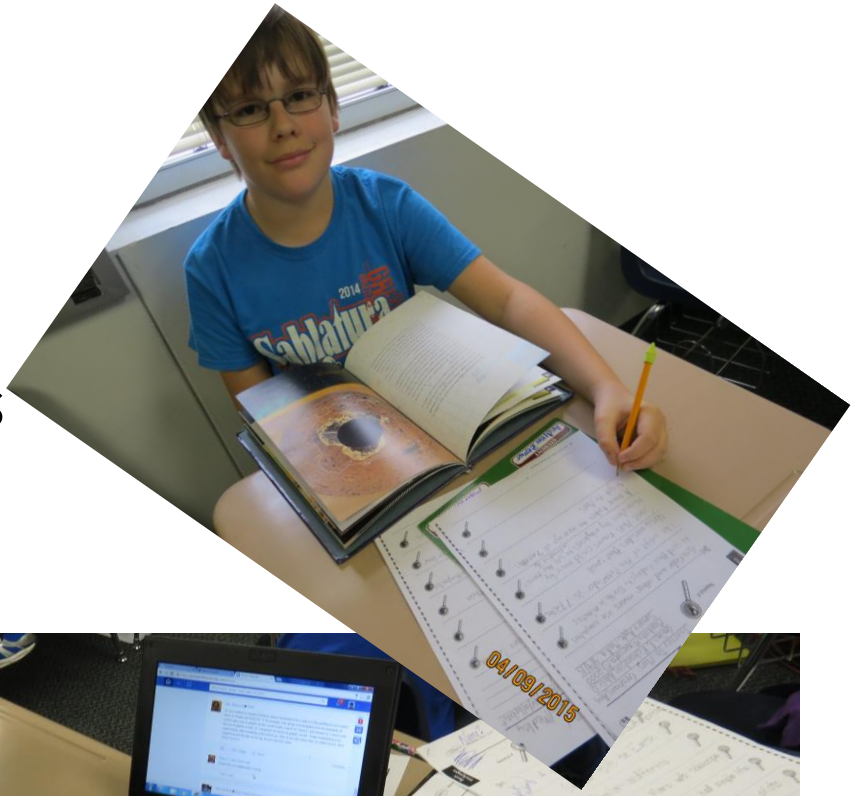
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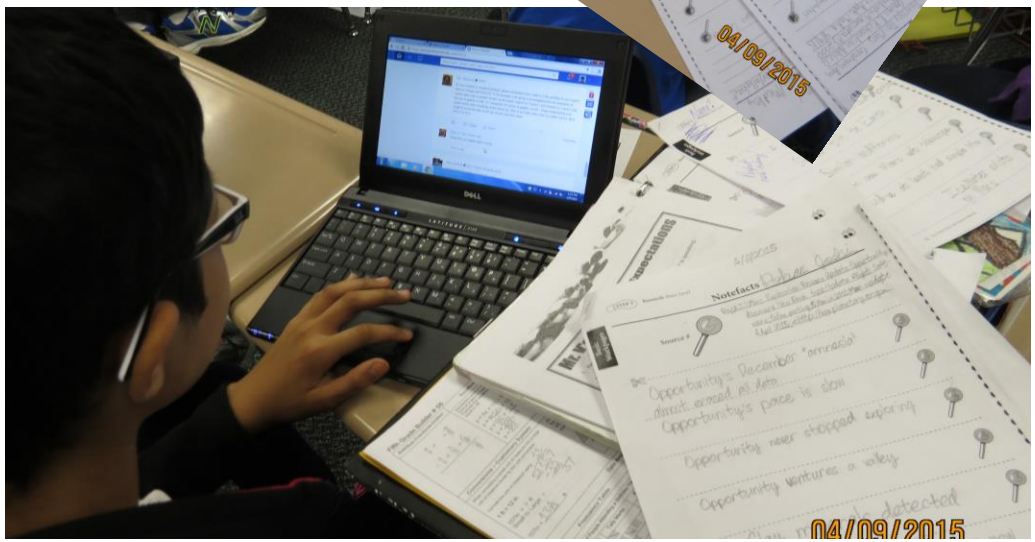
**Final research papers should be 3-4 pages.*

Step 3:Research

Researchers use a variety of resources and strategies to gather and record information, focusing on goals set in Step 2.







Steps to Taking Notefacts

- Each resource you use will have its own number. Put that number in the large magnifying glass and on all the small magnifying glasses next to each notefact.
- Record the required information for your bibliography on the solid lines
- Notefacts are short (note) and true (fact).
- Notefacts should be:
  - Written in your own words
  - Short but complete enough to make sense
  - Related to your goal-setting questions
  - Written between the dotted lines – one notefact per space
  - Documented by page number



Cite your sources!

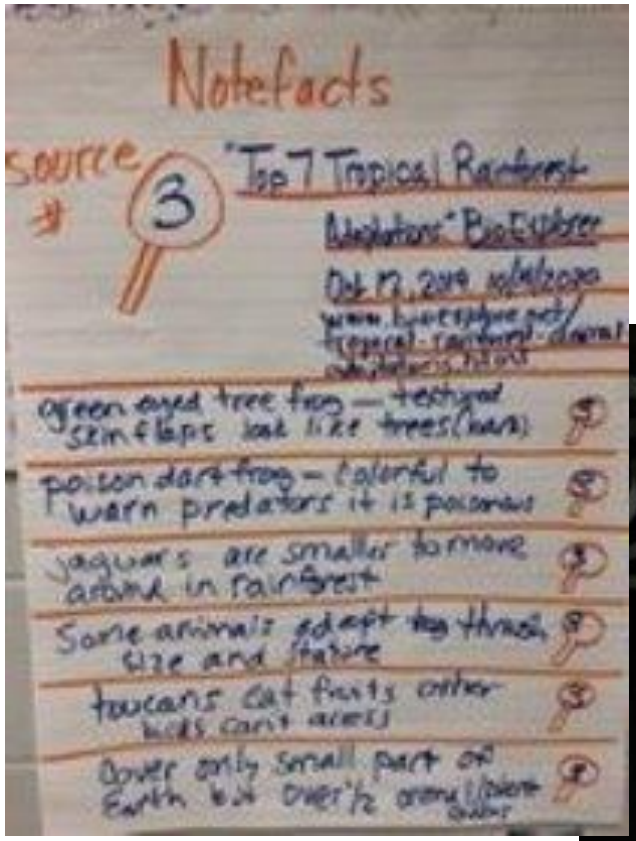


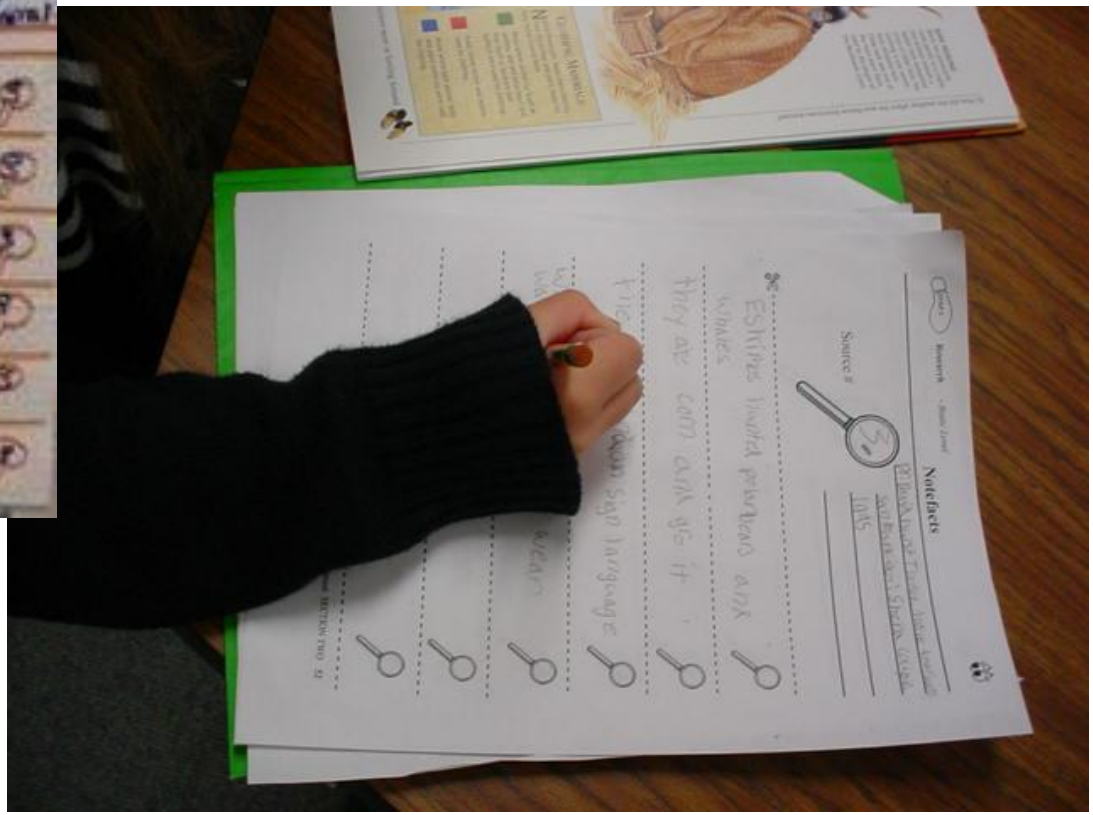
Book: Author's Last Name, First Name. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher's Name, Copyright Date.

Website: Author Last Name, First Name. "Article or Specific Web Page Title."Title of Entire Web Site . Day Abbreviated Month. Year Web Page Was Last Revised. Sponsoring Organization. Day Abbreviated Month. Year Your Read It (URL)

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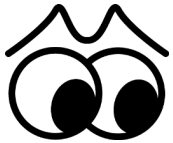

Notefacts
source #3
green eyed tree frog — textured skin flaps look like trees(camo)
poison dart frog – colorful to warn predators it is poisonous
jaguars are smaller to move around in rainforest
Some animals adapt by thread size and feature
toucans eat fruits other birds can't access
Ocean only small part of Earth but over ½ animal/plant


Notefacts

STEP 3

NOTEFACTS

Research



(Common student errors)

What is a Kachina? It is a spirit, a supernatural being. (Plagiarized)

The Hopi reservation is in the middle of the Navajo reservation (Too many words)

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grew corn, squash, beans, melons, made

baskets, silver jewelery, pottery, lived in pueblos on mesas, had religious ceremonies
in kivas (Too much in 1 notefact)

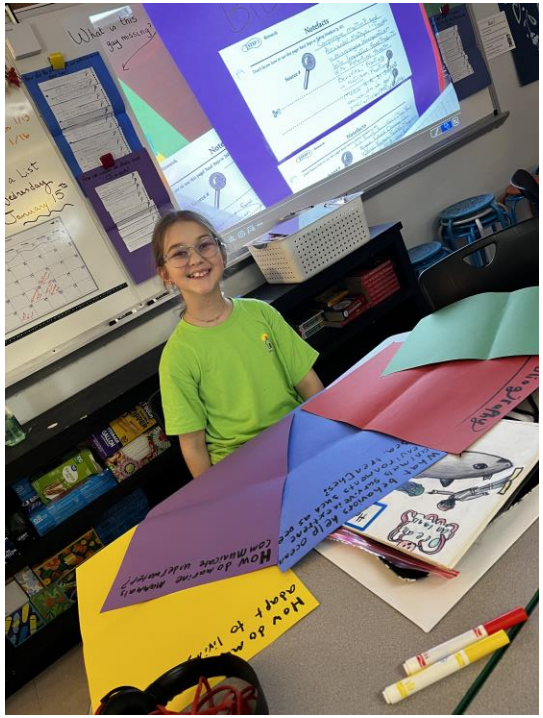
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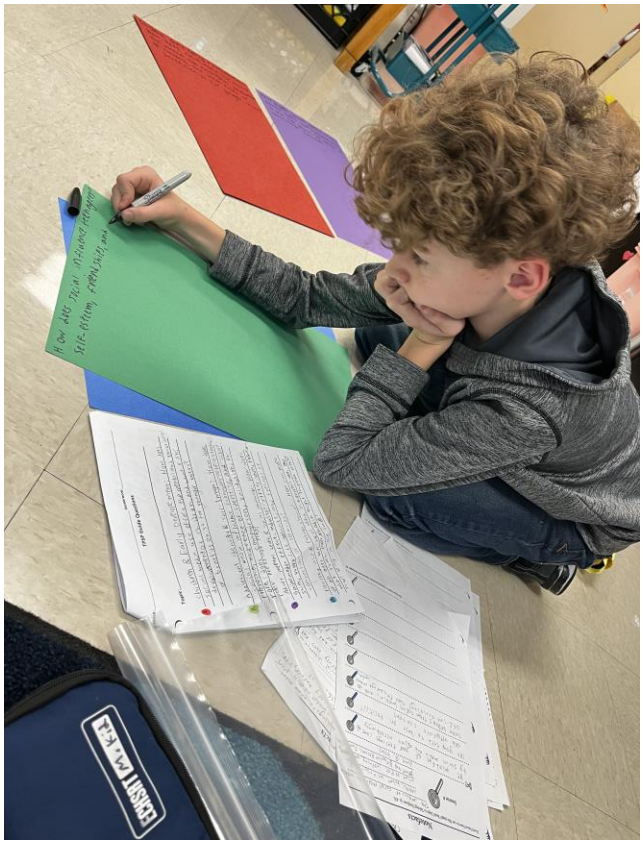
religious ceremonies (Incomplete information)

Step 4: Organizing

Researchers organize information to allow them to analyze and interpret findings for use in a paper or project.









Step 5: Goal Evaluation

Researchers check to see if they have fulfilled the assignment requirements and evaluate the quality of their work during the first four steps.







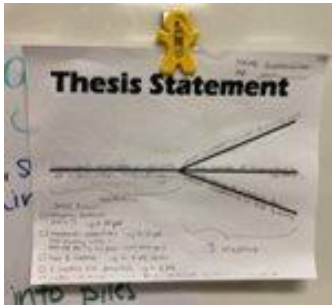
Step 6: Product

Researchers create a product to show what they have learned.

- Research Paper
- Other Product Examples:
  - ***Quilt***
  - ***Artifacts***
  - *Ted Talk*
  - ***Interview***
  - *Vlog / Blog*
  - ***Board Game***
  - *Timeline*
  - ***Podcast Series***
  - ***Social Media Influencer***
  - *Prototype / Model*
  - *Newscast*
  - ***Scrapbook***
  - *Timeline*











Step 7: Presentation

Students present to their families and community at the GT Academy Student Showcase.











5th Grade TPSP:
Story Quilt

Students choose an area of interest *(Environment, History, Technology, Medicine, Space, Education)*

Students work in groups to choose a specific topic to study and generate questions to guide research.

Students use **IIM** to research topic and write a MLA formatted research paper.

Students collaborate to plan and design a quilt to reflect research findings.

Students create final product and present their work at the GTA Student Showcase.



TPSP Timeline: 5th Grade



- **October**
  - Whole Class Intro to IIM
  - Choose Topic
- **November**
  - Develop Guide Questions – **Due Nov. 13**
- **December**
  - Research
  - **Notefacts – Due Dec. 16**
- **January**
  - Organize Notefacts
  - **Complete Outline – Due Jan. 15**
  - Write Rough Draft
- **February**
  - **Rough Draft Due – Feb. 19**
  - Editing & Revisions
  - **Bibliography Due – Feb. 23**
- **March**
  - **Final Copy Due – March 5**
  - Plan and Develop Product
- **April**
  - Practice Presentations
- **May 12,13,14 – GTA Student Showcase!**



6th Grade TPSP:

Culture Shock

Students choose an area of interest *(Culture, Government, Geography, History, Economy).*

Students create groups, choose country, and develop guide questions.

Students **research** topic related to their chosen country.

Students write research paper in MLA format including bibliography and 10 glossary words.

Students create a **map** to show their journey through the country, highlighting significant points of interest.

Students create artifacts and final product to present their work (Game/ Scrapbook / Influencer / Interview).



TPSP Timeline: 6th Grade

- **October**
  - Introduce "Culture Shock" TPSP
  - Review IIM
  - Choose Research Groups
- **November**
  - Develop Guide Questions / Thesis Statement
  - Research
  - **Notefacts Due November 17**
- **December**
  - Write Rough Draft
  - Revise / Edit
  - **Final Copy Due Dec. 16**
- **January / February**
  - Choose Products
  - Generate Jobs List
- **March / April**
  - Product Development
- **April**
  - **Final Products Due April 16**
  - Class Presentations / Peer Evaluations
- **May 12, 13,14**
  - GTA Student Showcase @ ESC



Goals of TPSP

- Voice & Choice
- Project Management
- Collaboration
- Group Dynamics
- Research Skills
- Product Development
- Presentation Skills



How Can Parents Support Their Child With TPSP?

- Help locate appropriate resources
  - *Visit the local library*
  - *Sit with your child at the computer to help determine appropriate sources of information*
  - *Print articles to send to school*
- Ask probing questions about topic
- Praise effort, progress, and ability to work with a group
- Give due date reminders / Check Skyward
- Assist with gathering necessary supplies
- Talk positively about skills they are developing
- Encourage student to communicate with teachers when questions / problems arise