

The Decades Project

Due Date: _____

Decade Selection: _____

Point Value: 100 pts.

Have you ever heard an older person comment how different things are now from when they were your age? What is it that defines our times? If you were to meet someone from the distant future, what would you share to help that person understand who we are, how we live, what makes us what we are? If you had the chance to go back in time, what clues or evidence would you look for to discover what it was like to live at that time? Individually or in pairs you will research the ins and outs of a particular decade. The decades that you will be asked to research are the 1970's, 1980's and the 1990's. You will have the next few weeks to research the decade that you have chosen. After that time, you and your group will have an entire class period to teach the class about your decade. The group project must include the following:

Task:

1. Create a poster of your decade, including pictures of people & events from that decade)
2. Present a 5 minute summary of your decade to the class.
3. Your posters/presentations must cover the following topics:
 - a. General Facts-- Population of the U.S., Life Expectancy, Average Annual Earnings, other information
 - b. Books & Literature-- Books that defined the times, Influential Authors, Magazines, etc.
 - c. Fads, Fashion, & Sports-- Slang terms (appropriate of course), Styles of clothing worn, sports figures & teams, etc.
 - d. Historic Events & People-- The Presidents, Landmark Court Cases, Wars, Treaties, etc.
 - e. Music-- Popular artists and music of the time period
 - f. Theatre, Film, Television, & Radio-- Popular movies, actors, radio & television programs
 - g. Inventions & Medical Discoveries-- Inventions and discoveries that changes our world!

*You must decide what the most important aspects of each topic are

**Be sure that you can fit in all the topics on the poster and in the time allotted.

The 1970's

The following items are just to get you started. You probably want to take a look at them and others. You want to dig deeper than these. There are tons more!!!!!!

Art & Architecture:

- * Land Art * Earth Art * Environmental Art
- * Photo Realism * Illusionism * Sears Tower
- * Arcology * Penzoil Place * Transamerica Building
- * Andy Warhol * George Segal * David Hockney
- * World Trade Center Towers

Books & Literature:

- * John Updike * Kurt Vonnegut * All the Presidents Men
- * I'm OK, Your OK * Rich Man, Poor Man * Jonathan Livingston Seagull

Fads, Fashion, & Sports:

- * Mood Rings * Lava Lamps * Rubik's Cube * Pet Rocks
- * Smiley Face Stickers * Streaking * Bellbottoms * Hip Huggers
- * Colorful Patches * Platform Shoes * Hot Pants * Earth Shoes
- * Clogs * Leisure Suits * Mini-Skirts * Disco
- * Pete Rose * Joe Namath * Mario Andretti * AJ Foyt
- * Mark Spitz * Secretariat * Billie Jean King * Hank Aaron
- * Evel Knievel * Chris Everett * Martina Navratilova

Historic Events & People:

- * Vietnam War * Roe v Wade * Paris Peace Accords * Earth Day
- * Affirmative Action * Watergate * Nixon, Ford, Carter * Kent State 4

- * Pentagon Papers * Munich Olympics * The Recession * Spiro Agnew
- * Three Mile Island * Jim Jones cult killings * U.S. Bicentennial * Parry Hearst
- * Shirley Chisholm * Jesse Jackson * George McGovern * G. Wallace
- * Iran hostage situation

Music:

- * Beatles * Elvis Presley * Disco Music * Aerosmith
- * The Bee Gees * David Bowie * Billy Joel * Elton John
- * Led Zeppelin * John Lennon * Pink Floyd * Bob Seger
- * Rod Stewart * The Who * Bob Marley * Reggae Music
- * Bruce Springsteen * 3 Dog Night * Folk, Punk, Shock & Rock

Theatre, Film, Television, & Radio:

- * Star Wars * Rocky * Towering Inferno * Jaws
- * Poseidon Adventure * The Godfather * Exorcist * Grease
- * Saturday Night Fever * American Graffiti * Apocalypse Now * Roots
- * Happy Days * The Brady Bunch * Saturday Night Live * Sesame Street
- * All In The Family * Sylvester Stallone * Robert De Niro * M. Brando

Inventions & Medical Discoveries:

- * Electronic Pocket Calculator * 1st Complete Synthesis of a Gene
- * Microprocessor * Genetic Engineering
- * CAT Scanner * Recombinant DNA
- * Compact Disc * Mammal to Mammal Gene Transplant
- * Personal Computer

The 1980's

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Art & Architecture:

- * Menil Collection * Trump Tower * High Museum
- * D.C. Union Station * Sunshine Skyway Bridge * Lichtenstein
- * Museum of Modern Art * Jasper Johns * Frank Stella
- * Keith Haring * Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Robbery

Books & Literature:

- * Stephen King * Tom Clancy * Danielle Steele * Tom Wolfe
- * The Beverly Hills Diet * 1984 * Fatherhood * Cosmos
- * Presumed Innocent * Trump: Surviving the Top
- * Richard Simmons' Never Say Diet Book
- * All I Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten

Fads, Fashion, & Sports:

- * Carpools * Fast Food * Candy * Smurfs
- * Cabbage Patches * Nintendo * Game Boys * Aerobics
- * Mini Vans * TMNT * Power Dressing * Calvin Klein
- * Perry Ellis * Donna Karan * Anne Klein * Tanning
- * Nike * RV's * Slang Terms * Mullets 5

* 1980 Summer Games * Larry Bird * Magic Johnson * Jerry Rice
* Michael Jordan * Carl Lewis * “Moonwalking” * Flo Jo
* 1980 US Hockey * 1984 Summer Games * He-Man * Thunder Cats

Historic Events & People:

* Challenger Explosion * Sandra Day O’Connor * Vietnam Memorial
* Geraldine Ferraro * Jesse Jackson * Jim Bakker
* AIDS * Just Say No Campaign * Medicare
* Toxic Shock Syndrome * Drugs * Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

Music:

* Compact Discs (CD’s) * Slam Dancing * Break Dancing
* Lambada * New Wave * Punk
* Rap Music * Milli Vanilli * LL Cool J
* Run DMC * David Bowie * Madonna
* Michael Jackson * Thriller * Whitney Houston
* Bruce Springsteen * Pat Benatar * Billy Idol
* John Mellencamp * Prince * Styx
* Bob Seger * U2 * Van Halen
* Wham! * ZZ Top * “Weird” Al Yankovic

* Hair Bands * Motley Crue * Poison

Theatre, Film, Television, & Radio:

* Cable TV * MTV * Tootsie * Author
* E.T. * Flashdance * Beverley Hills Cop * Rain Man
* Back to the Future * Platoon * The Breakfast Club * Roseanne
* Married w/ Children * Tabloid TV * Bill Cosby * Cheers
* Golden Girls * The Wonder Years * Unsolved Mysteries * Cosby Show

Inventions & Medical Discoveries:

* Human Genome Project * Columbia Spacecraft * Abortion Pill
* Hepatitis B Vaccine * Disposable Contacts * Internet
* Personal Computer * Windows Operating System * CD ROM

The 1990’s

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Art & Architecture:

* Robert Venturi * Richard Meyer * Theme Restaurants
* Green Design * Bamboo Floors * Mid-Century Modern
* Feng Shui * Martha Stewart * Yard Dog Art
* Annie Liebowitz * Casino Construction

Books & Literature:

* Books online * Audio Books * Amazon.com * Borders
* Barnes & Noble * John Grisham * Michael Crichton * Tom Clancy
* Memoirs of a Gheisa * Cold Mountain * The Zone Diet Book
* Chicken Soup for the Soul Books * Divine Secretes of the Ya Ya Sisterhood