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Using the Internet in Education  
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July 31, 2009

#### Description of lesson

##### The Hero Project

Many famous people did not start off any different than the rest of us. Some have exceptional talents and some had very ordinary talents that they were able to use in exceptional ways. Many have accomplished their feat in spite of or because of personal difficulties.

Target Audience: 4<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies/Language Arts Class

Rationale: Old Bridge Township has put an extraordinary push to meet the requirements of NJ-TAPIN. This activity will help meet those benchmarks.

Material: Heroes Around Us Note Taking Form from Readwritethink  
[http://www.readwritethink.org/lesson\\_images/lesson171/note.pdf](http://www.readwritethink.org/lesson_images/lesson171/note.pdf)

Storyboard Template/Graphic Organizer

<http://www.thinkport.org/202420c3-5f23-4586-b1c4-5bfc8a4c61c0.asset?>

Procedure: Students will view the My Hero site at [www.myheroproject.org](http://www.myheroproject.org). Teacher will lead a discussion of heroes. Students will then go to the library and look through the biography section to help them select a hero. Once notes are taken on the life of the selected person a graphic organizer will be used to lay out the digital story with pictures, texts, and audio. Be sure to include an introduction, how his/her early life may effected your person, achievements and conclusion. In the accompanying example Microsoft Photostory was used.

## Hero Project Guidelines

Gather some information about the person you are going to write about. Here are some questions that will guide you in your work:

- In what ways was/is his/her life remarkable?
- In what ways was/is their life admirable?
- What human qualities were/are most influential in shaping the way this person lived/ lives and influenced his or her times?
- Which quality or trait was/is most beneficial in helping them become famous?
- Did this person make any major mistakes or bad decisions? If so, what were they and how would you have chosen and acted differently if you were in their shoes?
- What are the two or three most important lessons you or any other young person might learn from the way this person lived?
- A famous person is often very important in shaping the lives of gifted people by providing guidance and encouragement. To what extent is this true of your person? Explain.
- Many people act out of a set of beliefs which dictate choices. It may be religion or politics or a personal philosophy. To what extent did your person act by a code or act independently of any set of beliefs? Were there times when the code was challenged and impossible to follow?
- What do you think it means to be famous? Was your person famous?" Why? Why not? How is being famous different from being a hero or a celebrity?

### **Below some websites that will help you in your search:**

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

<http://www.bham.wednet.edu/bio/biomak2.htm>

<http://www.wikipedia.org>

<http://www.infoplease.com/people.html>

<http://www.libraryspot.com/biographies/>

**Step 3:** Write your project that consist of:

- The introduction.
- Physical and personal descriptions.
- Early life stages/events.
- Achievements.
- Your reasons for choosing this person (influences).
- Conclusion.

**Step 4:** Present your project via Photostory or some other software that you feel comfortable with. The project must include the following:

- Timeline summarizing the most important dates about your person
- A picture/drawing of the person.
- Answers to the questions in Step into a logical order.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Class/Subject \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher

### Storyboard

Symbol:			
Sentence:			

Symbol:			
Sentence:			

<http://www.thinkport.org/Technology/template.tp>