

Trimester 3 Advanced Social Studies Writing Project:

Contribution to the Community

Date Assigned: 4/9/2010

We often notice problems in our local, state, national, or even global communities. We all know how to complain, but not all of us know how to act and help. This project is designed to educate ourselves and others in order to understand that even one person can make a difference.

Rubric Score 4:

Follow the directions and write significantly more than is required.

Demonstrate your finest cursive writing or type your sentences.

Rubric Score 3:

Follow the below directions to the three parts of this project.

Part A: Research Information

Due Date: 4/30/2010

*Explain your assigned social problem and who it affects.

*Describe a few organizations that exist to help this problem.

*Focus on how *one* of these organizations addresses the problem.

Part B: Conduct an Interview

Due Date: 5/12/2010

*You **MUST** have permission from your parents/guardians to e-mail, call or visit a representative from the organization.

*Include the following questions in your interview:

“Could you tell me about the mission of your organization as well as who benefits from your work?”

“May I ask you to describe your responsibilities within this organization?”

“How can people like me help with this problem?”

*Take accurate notes so that you can correctly quote this individual.

Part C: Develop an Educational Pamphlet

Final Due Date: 6/4/2010

Side 1: Include a question which relates to and gains attention for the social problem.

Side 2 and 3: Write down 5-7 sentences which describe your topic.

Side 3: List 2-3 organizations that work to solve this problem.

Side 4: Describe your interview with one organization, including correct quotation marks when used.

Side 5: Inform the reader about how to contact this organization and how you can help.

Side 6: Write down your name, date, grade, teacher, and school.

List of Suggested Topics for the Trimester 3 Project

These are suggested topics for your third trimester project. You may submit a proposal to obtain permission for an idea not listed below.

Health

- Skin, lung, and other types of cancer in the United States or the global community
- The effects of pesticides and hormones on diet in the United States
- Obesity in the United States
- The effects of the mosquito population in the United States or the global community

Poverty and Starvation

- Homelessness in the United States or the global community
- Starvation in the United States or the global community

Education

- Education in the United States or the global community
- Lack of literacy in the United States or the global community
- Public school funding in the United States

The Environment

- Deforestation in the United States or the global community
- Pollution in the United States or the global community
- Waste management in the United States or the global community

Animal Rights

- Animal abuse in the United States
- Overpopulation in animal shelters in the United States
- Puppy mills in the United States or the global community
- Endangered species or the disappearing population of bees in the world

Note: The global community includes areas such as Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, South America, and North America.

Important Reminder:

You will soon receive separate instructions that will guide you through each part.

Name _____

Trimester 3 Social Studies Project, Part A: Research Information

REMEMBER THE DIRECTIONS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT:

- *Explain your assigned social problem and who it affects.
- *Describe a few organizations that exist to help this problem.
- *Focus on how *one* of these organizations addresses the problem.

FIND INFORMATION AND WRITE SENTENCES

*Explain your assigned social problem and who it affects.

Literacy is a problem in different parts of the world. Not every country or parts of countries have books for people to enjoy or learn from. One of those places is Ghana, Africa. In that part of Africa, people sometimes have to share just a few books for an entire class. Sometimes, it is also sad that the books they have are very old and in poor condition.

*Describe a few organizations that exist to help this problem.

One organization that helps to bring books to Africa is “Books for Africa.” They are one of the largest shippers of books that benefit African nations.

Another organization is “South Africa Books for Children,” which finds children’s books and brings them to elementary schools all over South Africa.

Kenyon Generosities Program for Literacy is yet another great but fictional organization created by a cool teacher at Kingston Hill Academy to help our people in need.

*Focus on how *one* of these organizations addresses the problem.

Books for Africa collects books from all over the United States. They have collection boxes at universities, colleges and libraries. They also have volunteers who sort out the difficulties of each kind of book and try to send them to the right places. The biggest cost for the organization is shipping costs. All of the donations from people are for paying the shipping costs to Africa. The people in Books for Africa volunteer so that no money is spent on paying employee. Non-profit organizations also get help from the government.

Name _____

Trimester 3 Social Studies Project, Part B: Conduct an Interview

REMEMBER THE DIRECTIONS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT:

- *Include at least three questions in your interview. The examples below are required. You may exceed expectations by asking additional questions.
- *You **MUST** have permission from your parents/guardians to e-mail, call or visit a representative from the organization.
- *Your interview notes should be submitted as evidence of completion.

Note: Ideally you should be able to contact the organization. However, this could be difficult for you. Therefore, if you and your parents/guardians do not receive a reply after three attempts, you **MAY** list the date and time of each attempt. If this is the case, you may conduct the interview with someone in your family who can act as a representative.

CALL, WRITE or E-MAIL the organization ONLY with your parents/guardians permission. You may start this way:

“Hello, my name is _____. I’m writing a project on _____. Could I ask you a few questions?”

“Could you tell me about the mission of your organization as well as who benefits from your work?”

“The mission of Habitat for Humanity is to provide more affordable housing for individuals and families that might not otherwise be able to have their own home. The organization is a non-profit volunteer foundation that has been around for decades. We have helped families throughout the United States.”

“May I ask you to describe your responsibilities within this organization?”

“There are two parts to my job. First of all, I help to hammer floorboards and tile bathrooms. I used to be a carpenter before this job. Second, I am an administrator that tries to recruit volunteers from different organizations like church groups and high schools.”

“How can people like me help with this problem?”

“There are two ways most people can help out Habitat for Humanity. One way to help is to donate money. This is a good option for people that may not have the time to commit in helping build houses. Another way to help is to simply volunteer your time during the weekends to help build. Children can even help with building with some things! This is also a way people like to help without giving money.”

“Thank you for taking the time to talk with me. I certainly appreciate it.”

Name _____

**Trimester 3 Social Studies Project,
Part C: Develop an Educational Pamphlet**

REMEMBER THE DIRECTIONS FROM THE ASSIGNMENT:

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Side 2 and 3: Write down 5-7 sentences which describe your topic.

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Side 6: Write down your name, date, grade, teacher, and school.

*Examine the final products of past projects and compare them to the instructions (see attached).

Name ____ Sample ____

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Sarah M.
4/24/09

Trimester 3 Advanced Social Studies Writing Project
Contributions to the Community

Part A: Fact Research

The problem is that old horses are being killed because they are too old to race and to work and their owners cannot afford to keep them. There are quite a few organizations that try to stop this problem and save horses. Three of these organizations are Habitat for Horses, the National Horse Protection League, and the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF). The TRF's mission is "to save horses no longer able to compete on the racetrack from possible abuse and slaughter." Thousands of thoroughbreds are killed every year because they are too old to race and their owners are unable to afford to keep them.

Sarah Maletta
5/5/09

Part B: Conduct an Interview

1. **Could you tell the mission of your organization as well as its sphere of influence?**

"Well, our mission is clear and simply stated. We save thoroughbred horses no longer able to compete on the racetrack from possible slaughter. We accept horses from owners with limited resources and we place these horses on land donated by the New York Correctional Services.

The horses are cared for by the inmates and the horses serve to help them become better citizens."

2. **May I ask you to describe your responsibilities within this organization?**

"Well, I help coordinate the horses placement on the prison land."

3. **How can people like me help with this problem?**

"It's important for the public to stay informed about this issue. The public can write to their local politicians and voice their concern for the care of these horses

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