

Biography/Autobiography Research Project

For the month of February, you will read either a biography or an autobiography. A *biography* tells about the life of a real person and an *autobiography* tells about the life of a person and is written by the person himself or herself. The book you find must be about a real person either in the past or present. You must also do research on the Internet about your person.

After you read your book, you will prepare a **5 paragraph essay** and give an **oral report** to the class that should be between 2 and 5 minutes. The essay should include the following information:

- An introductory statement about your person. Include their name, when they were born, and where they lived.
- Important facts such as family members, education, and important events in their life.
- Describe the person's adult life. What work did this person do? How did he/she become well known? What are his/her important accomplishments?
- Tell what you think about the book. Do you think the person is important? Why?
- How is the world different because that person lived?

Your visual for the oral presentation will be a **bottle person**. You need to make your bottle person look as much like your biography person as possible. Here are the directions (however, there is more than one way to make a bottle person):

1. Take one empty, dry water bottle -the size should be 12 to 24 ounces. Weigh the water bottle down by putting something heavy in it, such as small rocks, and put the lid on the bottle.
2. Look for objects around the house that you can use for the head, such as a small. Styrofoam ball, ping pong ball, or anything round. Glue the head on the water bottle.
3. Draw or paint a face on the ball.
4. Take string, yarn, cotton, or paper shreds and glue on the ball for hair.
5. Create colorful clothing with tissue paper, construction paper, or cloth and wrap it around your bottle.
6. Add arms of construction paper, pipe cleaners, or create bendable arms.
7. Now add details that represent your person. For example, if you have Abraham Lincoln, you could add a top hat. Enjoy and be creative!

Project due date: _____

Student Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____

