

Dear Parents and Homework Helpers,

Each semester we study a different continent. This semester we are studying North America. Your child will research their chosen topic, write a report, and make a 3D model which they will present in December. Enclosed is the packet you and your child may use to help them stay organized. Please do not let your child wait until the last minute.

We encourage the children to make note cards so they do not have to read their report. It makes it hard to understand if they are speaking into a paper. Some children struggle with this. That's ok, they will get better with time.

Report Guidelines:

1<sup>st</sup> years report should be at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a page in their most beautiful hand writing. If your child needs dotted line paper, they may take some from the classroom.

2<sup>nd</sup> years report may be hand written or typed (double spaced) and should be at least 1 full page.

3<sup>rd</sup> years report should be typed (double spaced) and about 2 pages.

Your child may bring their books to school and research in class after they complete their other work. We will also be working on writing sentences and paragraphs as well as how to group facts together to make a fluid paper

Poster boards may be a part of the 3-D project but are not required if they have another 3-D item. I love to see what the **kids** make to show or represent their topic.

Presentations will begin December 7th. The sign-up page will be posted by November 12th so you will be able to schedule accordingly. Presenting to an audience is an important part of this project, it would be great if you could schedule your time to watch all of the presentations on your chosen day.

We will have our North American Pot Luck luncheon on Friday, December 16th. There will be a museum walk at 11:30 so the children can show other parents what they have done and lunch will begin approximately 12:15.

Thank you for your support

Ms. Lisa & Ms. Ariana

# North America Report Guidelines

The following dates are a guideline to help your child keep on track, choose a schedule that works for your family. This is just a guideline. Some students work better with a shorter schedule, if your child is one of these, do not let them stress you out and they still have to do their own work.

Week of:

10/31/22	North America packets go home. Make a library trip for research books and articles.
11/6/22	Begin research cards using provided research card sheets or your own index cards: 1 <sup>st</sup> years aim for 25+ cards (facts), 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> years aim for 50+ cards (facts). One sentence/fact per card.
11/20/22	Begin 3-D project
11/20/22	Cut note card sheets apart and sort them into common themes. Then sort each theme into a logical order (these become the paragraphs in the written report), Begin rough draft
11/27/22	Finish Rough draft - Edit with a parent for age-appropriate spelling, punctuation, and grammar, Begin 3-D project
12/4/22	Begin Final draft. Organize note cards & Practice, practice, practice
12/7/22	Presentations begin Bring to presentation: Note cards to use during presentation, Written Report to turn in, and Project

## Helpful Hints

- Your student is responsible for their own research, report, and project. Please help them with encouragement, support, trips to the library, and to the store for materials. If you can help them follow the timeline above, they should do well.
- In order to help eliminate plagiarism, a good way for the students to write their facts is to have them read a section of their research book or article, close the book, sit on it and tell you what they read. Once they have told you, they should be able to write it down. Then they can move onto the next section or book.
- The 3-D project is done completely at home, again, by your child. It should be sturdy enough to hold up during transportation.
- We have extra note card sheets at school and on the website if you need to print them. Index cards are available at school or at a local store.

## How to use the note cards

You should read your resource (1 book or article at a time) and write 1 interesting fact on each notecard. After you finish making your notes cards for each resource, put the book away and write 1 or 2 sentences about the fact on each card. Do this for all your resources.

When all your note cards have been made, arrange them in groups by subject.

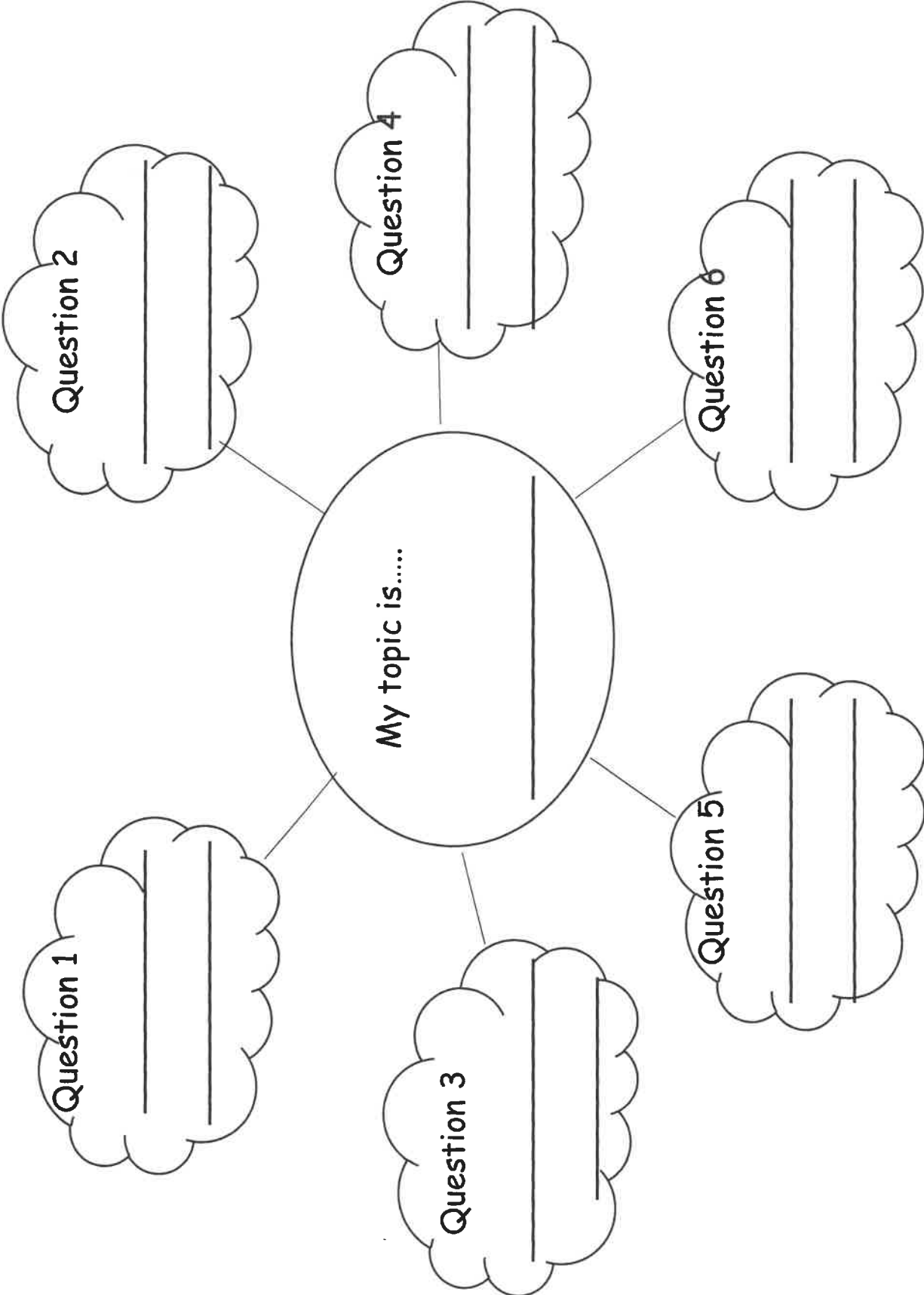
When you have all your groups organized, begin putting the notecards in order so they make sense and flow nicely.

After you organize your note cards, you may lay them out and begin writing your research paper using the note cards as a guide.

The note cards will be what you use to give your presentation to the class and the paper is what you will turn in to me when you are all done.

You may want to make some changes to your note cards after you practice presenting with them so that it sounds better or goes smoother. That is why it is good to practice in front of a mirror or to a close stuffed friend.

Brainstorm questions about the topic



## Things I already know about my topic

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**Things I want to know about my topic**  
**Essential questions**

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# Resources (Where I found out new stuff)

## Bibliography

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Book Title:

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Author:

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Pages Used:

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Book Title:

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Author:

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Pages Used:

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Book Title:

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