

Famous Oklahomans

Introduction

Have you ever wondered about what famous people were like before they were famous? Did they live in your neighborhood? Were they good students in school? Did they do something else before they became famous? This lesson will utilize the Oklahoman Archives to find out answers to questions such as these about famous people from the state of Oklahoma.

Overview

Students will be required to use researching skills to find out specific information about a famous person. Through the use of the online Oklahoman Archives, students will practice searching for information and then assimilate that information into a report about a famous person from the state of Oklahoma.

Grade Level: 4-6

Subject: History

Objectives:

1. Student will utilize technology skills to navigate through the stored information to retrieve specific detailed information.
2. Students will find at least 5 interesting (unknown) facts about a famous person from the state of Oklahoma.
3. Students will write a one-page summary detailing the information discovered in their research.

Standards:

Oklahoma PASS Information Technology Standard 5:

The student will demonstrate knowledge of technology research tools.

1. Use telecommunications and online resources (e.g., e-mail, online discussions, Web environments) to participate in collaborative problem-solving activities for the purpose of developing solutions or products for audiences inside and outside the classroom.

Oklahoma PASS Social Studies Standard 1:

The student will develop and practice the process skills of social studies.

1. Demonstrate the ability to utilize research materials, such as encyclopedias, almanacs, atlases, newspapers, photographs, visual images, and computer-based technologies.

Oklahoma PASS Language Arts Standard 5:

Research and Information - The student will conduct research and organize information.

1. Accessing Information - Select the best source for a given purpose.
 - B. Identify key words to be used in searching for resources and information.
 - C. Cite information sources appropriately.
 - D. Use text formats and organization as an aid in constructing meaning from nonfiction (expository) text (e.g., heading, subheading, bold print, and italics).
2. Interpreting Information - Analyze and evaluate information from a variety of sources.
 - B. Take notes to paraphrase or summarize information.
 - C. Locate, organize, and synthesize information from a variety of print, nonprint and technological resources (e.g., dictionaries, reference books, atlases, magazines, informational texts, thesaurus, and technology/Internet).
 - D. Report on the findings of research in a variety of formats including written, oral, and/or visual presentations.

Required Materials:

Internet Access with link set to Oklahoman Archives.
<http://schools.newsok.com/#####/archives> Schools should input their state ID to replace the "#s" in the URL.

List of Famous Oklahomans.

Activities & Procedures:

1. Begin with overview of the Oklahoman Archives. This is a great tool for searching for information. To get familiar with the capabilities, review "Quick Guide to Oklahoman Archives". (Available on main page)
2. Brainstorm the types of information that you may be able to find from such a resource. (What happened on specific days?, What was "front page news" in the year you were born?, How did things 20 years ago compare to today in terms of cost, styles, jobs, etc.?)
3. Go through the example of Tony Randall, a famous person that grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Illustrate how to put the name in quotations to avoid getting back entries of all "Tony's" and all "Randall's". Search by timeframe and review articles to discover the following:
 - a. Tony Randall attended Northwestern University.
 - b. Tony Randall was a Signal Corp Officer in WWII.
 - c. Tony Randall is a singer, song-writer, and actor.
 - d. He played "Mr. Weskit" on the TV series "Mr. Peepers" in 1959.
 - e. He starred in Mark Twains Adventure of Huckleberry Finn.
4. Students will write one-page summary of findings, copy and paste picture of person if available, and cite source appropriately.
5. Review procedure for citing an on-line newspaper resource:
 - a. **APA guidelines for citing an on-line newspaper source is as follows:**
Author Last Name, First Name, . (Year, Date of Article).
Title of Article. *Name of Paper*. Retrieved on Date you accessed article, from URL address.

Example:

Unknown Author. (1959, September 20). Nobody is as Versatile as Busy Tony Randall. *The Oklahoman*. Retrieved on September 7, 2005, from <http://olive.newsok.com/archive/Skins/Oklahoman/navigator.asp?skin=Oklahoman&BP=OK>.

Famous Oklahomans

Johnny Bench baseball player, *Oklahoma City*
John Berryman poet, *MacAlester*
Garth Brooks singer, *Tulsa*
Jeremy Castle singer, *Blanchard*
Iron Eyes Cody Cherokee actor
Gordon Cooper astronaut, *Shawnee*
Ralph Ellison writer, *Oklahoma City*
James Garner actor, *Norman*
Owen K. Garriott astronaut, *Enid*
Vince Gill singer, *Norman*
Chester Gould cartoonist, *Pawnee*
Woodrow Wilson Woody Guthrie singer, composer, *Okemah*
Ike, Taylor, Zac Hanson music, *Tulsa*
Roy Harris composer, *Lincoln Cty*
Paul Harvey broadcaster, *Tulsa*
Van Heflin actor, *Walters*
Tony Hillerman author, *Sacred Heart*
Ron Howard actor, director, *Duncan*
Karl Guthe Jansky engineer, *Norman*
Ben Johnson actor, *Pawhuska*
Jennifer Jones actress, *Tulsa*
Jeane Kirkpatrick diplomat, *Duncan*
Shannon Lucid astronaut, *Bethany*
Mickey Charles Mantle baseball player, *Spavinaw*
Reba McEntire singer, *McAlester*
Shannon Miller Olympic gymnast, *Edmond*
Bill Moyers journalist, *Hugo*
Daniel Patrick Moynihan N.Y. senator, *Tulsa*
Patti Page singer, *Clarence*
Brad Pitt actor *Shawnee*
Tony Randall actor, *Tulsa*
Oral Roberts evangelist, *Ada*
Dale Robertson actor, *Oklahoma City*
Will Rogers humorist, *Oologah*
Dan Rowan comedian, *Beggs*
Robert Stemmons whistler, *Tulsa*
Maria Tallchief ballerina, *Fairfax*
James Francis Jim Thorpe athlete, *Prague*
Jeanne Tripplehorn actress, *Tulsa*
Ted Shackelford actor, *Tulsa*
Wilma Mankiller Cherokee chief, *Tahlequah*