



10 Minute Learning Activity

Database: SIRS Discoverer

Topic/Subject Area: Language Arts/
Biographies

Grade Level: 4

Essential Question: Who are the famous people in history? What makes a person famous?

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Academic Content Standards: K-12 English/Language Arts

Standard: English Language Arts: Research Standard

Benchmarks: Research A: Identify a topic of study, construct questions and determine appropriate sources for gathering information. Research B: Select and summarize important information and sort key findings into categories about a topic.

Grade Level Indicators: 4.2 Locate sources, and collect relevant information from multiple sources. 4.3 Identify important information found in the sources and summarize important findings.

Search Steps:

1. Enter <http://www.infohio.org>.
2. Click on *Resources for Grades K-5*.
3. Click on *SIRS Discoverer*.
4. Enter local username and password if prompted for authentication. Your teacher, librarian or technology coordinator will have this information.
5. Click *SIRS Discoverer* again on the next screen.
6. Click on *Biographies* under *Database Features*.
7. Type in the name of the person you are researching in *Search For* box, last name first (e.g., Lincoln, Abraham).
8. Click on *Search*, then click on the name that appears on your search.
9. Choose any two articles with easy to moderate reading level, identified by a green or blue book icon located to the left side of the title.
10. Read the articles about your famous person.
11. Answer the *essential questions* by writing the name of your famous person and three new interesting facts that make your person famous.

Additional Comments on Search Process:

1. In *SIRS Discoverer*, you could also click on the *Notable People* icon. Then choose the *Topics/subtopics* category from which your famous person would link.
2. Many pictures can be retrieved through *SIRS Discoverer* by clicking on the camera icon under *Database Features*. Then type in the name of your famous person in the *Search For* box. Choose the title of your photograph and click. Or, you can choose articles with the camera icon located to the right of the title, open them, and then click on the camera icon.