Dear Parents,

We are VERY excited to launch, next Wednesday, our Third Grade Winter Research Project. This year’s theme is African American Leaders. African Americans have played a vital role in the shaping of American history. The conceptual goal of this research project is to convey to the children the achievements and contributions of America’s noted African American leaders, inventors, educators, artists, scientists, entrepreneurs, entertainers and sports figures. The actual format of the research might be anything from a traditional written paper or a letter to a game or brochure.

The children will present their research in February to a wider audience to celebrate African American History Month.

Your child will be given the opportunity to choose the person whom they wish to study. Over the weekend, please discuss and, do some initial investigation with your child, into the following African American Leaders. Then fill out and return the section below:

**Example**:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Choice: | Name of Leader | Category | Comments |
| First | *Rosa Parks* | *Civil Rights* | *She’s my favorite because my grandpa knew her!* |
| Second | *Ernie Davis* | *Sports* | *He’d be fun, too, because I LOVE football!* |
| Third | *Nina Simone* | *Arts/Music* | *I like her music, so she might be fun to research.* |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Choice: | Name of Leader | Category | Comments |
| First |  |  |  |
| Second |  |  |  |
| Third |  |  |  |

War and Civil Rights History

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| American Revolution | Civil War Era | World War I | World War II | Civil Rights Era |
| Crispus Attucks  Black Minutemen of Massachusetts  James Armistead | Frederic Douglas  Nat Turner  Harriet Tubman  Dred Scott  Ida B. Wells  Sojourner Truth  54th Regiment Massachusetts | 369th Infantry  (Harlem Hellfighters) | Tuskegee Airmen  [761st Tank Battalion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/761st_Tank_Battalion_(United_States)) | Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  Coretta Scott King  Ruby Bridges  Malcolm X.  Rosa Parks  Charles Hamilton Houston  Angela Davis |

Sports

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Basketball | Baseball | Football | Tennis | Gymnastics | Track and Field | | | Boxing |
| LeBron James  Michael Jordan  Magic Johnson  Tim Duncan  Kareem Abdul Jabbar | Jackie Robinson  Hank Aaron | Tiki Barber  Ernie Davis  Jim Brown | Arthur Ashe  Williams Sisters | Gabby Douglas | | Jesse Owens  Wilma Rudolph | Mohammad Ali | |

Arts and Entertainment

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Music | Poetry and Literature | Journalism | Art | Film and Theater |
| Louis Armstrong  Michael Jackson  Alicia Keys  Harry Belafonte  Nina Simone  Scott Joplin | Langston Hughes  James Baldwin  Tony Morrison  Maya Angelou  Nikki Giovanni  Susan King Taylor  Zora Neal Hurston  Gwendolyn Brookes | John H. Johnsons  W.E.B. DuBois  Soledad O’Brien  Oprah Winfrey  Ed Bradley | Jean-Michel Basquiat  Walter Ellison  Joshua Johnston | Paul Robeson  James Earl Jones  Gordon Parks  Denzel Washington  Alfre Woodard |

Science/Business/Politics/Education

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Business | Science | Education | Politics |
| Madam C.J. Walker  John H. Johnson  Russell Simmons  Clara Brown  Oprah Winfrey  Beyonce Knowles  Ursula Burns  Cathy Hughes | George Washington Carver  James Banning  James West  Granville T. Woods  Dr. Charles Drew  Matthew Henson  Mae Jemison  Bessie Coleman | Booker T. Washington  Mary McCleod Bethune  Ruth Simmons | President Obama  Mrs. Obama  Rev. Jesse Jackson  Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.  Shirley Chisholm  Thurgood Marshall  Vernon Jordan  Tim Scott  Karen Bass  Condoleezza Rice |