

LANGUAGE ARTS MISSION

Objective

Upon completion of this activity, students will be able to:

- complete research related to a planet in order to provide information for a final project.
- communicate clearly and effectively the information organized through the research process.
- demonstrate effective use of technology.

Instructional Time

45–90 minutes

Materials

“Language Arts Mission” student worksheet
textbooks
Internet
Pencil/pen

Procedure

1. Distribute student worksheet to the students.
2. Explain the scenario in which the student paper will be written.
3. Establish time for students to research planet information on the Internet.
4. Provide a timeline for students to complete research and present paper.
5. Provide students with rubric for evaluating their research and paper.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Title of Essay: _____

	Criteria				Points
	1	2	3	4	
Purposes	The essay does not refer to the purposes of the space colony.	The essay explains some of the purposes of the space colony but misses key purposes.	The essay explains all of the key purposes of the space colony.	The essay explains the key purposes of the space colony and points out less obvious ones as well.	----
Features	The essay does not detail the features of the space colony or the purpose they serve.	The essay neglects some features of the space colony or the purpose they serve.	The essay details the key features of the space colony and explains the purposes they serve.	The essay details both key and hidden features of the space colony and explains how they serve several purposes.	----
Critique	The essay does not mention the strengths or the weaknesses of the space colony.	The essay discusses either the strength or weaknesses of the space colony but not both.	The essay discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the space colony.	The essay discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the space colony, and suggests ways in which it can be improved.	----
Connections	The essay makes no connections between the space colony and the planet.	The essay makes unclear or inappropriate connections between the space colony and the planet.	The essay makes appropriate connections between the purposes and features of the space colony and one or two features of the planet.	The essay makes appropriate connections between the purposes and features of the space colony and many different features of the planet.	----
				Total----->	----

Teacher Comments:

Student Name _____ Date _____

LANGUAGE ARTS MISSION

You have just received your mission papers. As Admiral of a Star Fleet, your mission is to select a planet within our solar system and build a space colony.

Your first order of business is to select and research your planet. Use the resources available at the media center, in the textbook and on the Internet.

After research and selection of your planet, you will write an essay to the High Commander (teacher) and describe what life in your space colony will be like.

The paper should be one to three pages with correct spelling and punctuation.

Planet I have chosen to build space colony: _____

Resources I have used to research chosen planet: