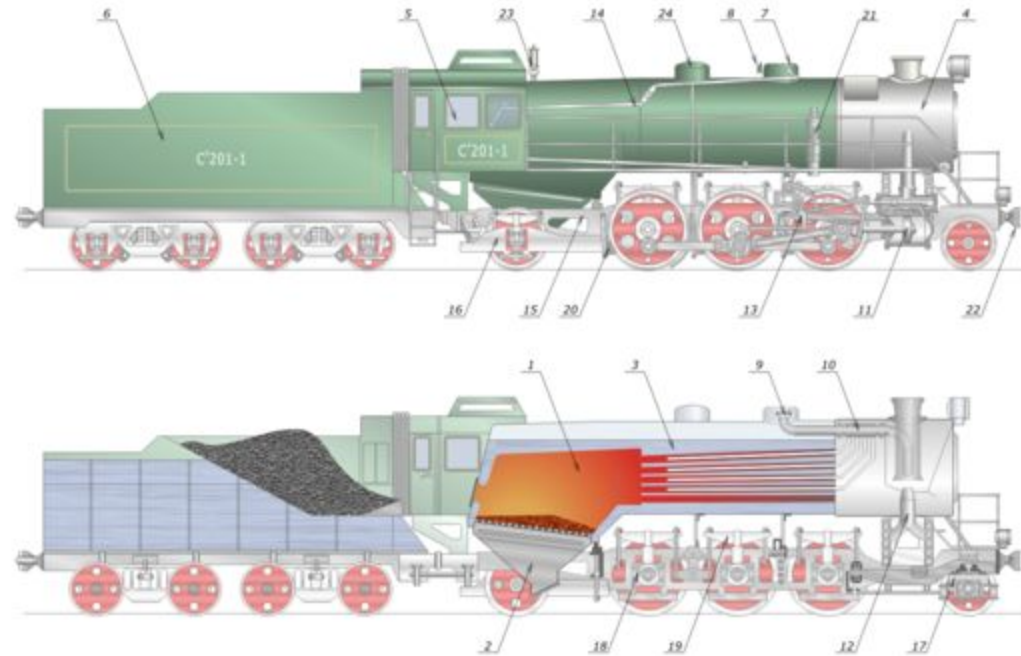


Grade 1 & 2 Independent Study Project
Curiosity Expedition- a Pursuit of Passion
Adapted from envision series by Melanie L. Bondy



Name _____

Think about what you are curious about. What interests you? What would you **passionately** like to know more about? You are going to brainstorm a few topics that would be fun and interesting to research and learn more about. Think of different subject areas such as: math, science, social studies, reading, writing, art music, technology and physical fitness. Your topic may be a person, place, time, event, activity or object. Do not include topics with which you are already familiar; for example, if you have taken piano lessons for five years, don't choose 'piano' as one of your topics. Choose topics about which you don't know much but about which you would like to learn more. Make a list of your topic ideas on this page. Write topics you are REALLY interested in **big and bold**! Topics that are not your very top choices may be written smaller and lighter. Give it a try! If you need to go to the library to look for ideas (in the non-fiction section) take this with you to jot your ideas. Remember, your topic brainstorm should be REALLY interesting to YOU, and you shouldn't already be an expert on your topic choices! List **at least** 6 choices.

Task 1

Library Hunt

Go to the library with your topic interest list. Circle any topic choice on the previous page if you can find two or more books about your topic. If no book can be found, do not circle the topic. Write your top three favorite circled topics. Rank them in order of interest starting with the topic that interests you the most.

Topic:

Two non-fiction book titles (about topic):

Task 2

Good Questions

Look at the 3 topics for which you have shown an interest. For each topic, write 3 good questions that you have about the topic. Be sure that your questions do not ask for simple answers.

Topic:

Questions you have about your topic:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Task 3

Make a choice

Look at your 3 topic choices. Decide which one you would most like to learn about.

List your top choice: _____

Task 4

Make title pages on which to record your research

Use each of your three questions for your topic choice on the previous page to title the next three pages. Write each question at the top of the next three pages. The fourth page has been titled 'other information about my topic.' You will use these pages to write notes as you learn about your topic.

Task 5-

READ, READ, READ

Check out one of the library books about your topic and read, read, read. As you find answers to your questions, record the information on the previous pages. As you find 'other' information about your topic, record it on the 4th page. Make sure you write the Title or name of your source and where you found it.

Task 6-

Find another source and take notes

Find another book or source of information about your topic. As you learn new things about your topic, and as you answer the questions you have, record your information on the appropriate note page. Make sure you write the Title or name of your source and where you found it.

Here are the sources/books I have used (be sure to include the author's name):

Task 7- Pick Two!

Choose any TWO of the following activities to show what you have learned about your topic. Be ready to present/share your topic and project activities with your class! Have fun!

***Folk Tale-** Write and illustrate a picture book that incorporates interesting information you learned about your topic into a Folk Tale. The topic information you include should be factual and accurate. You may create your book using the computer, by hand, or with a combination of both. Create a title and cover for your book. Include your author information, and record a brief summary of the book on the back cover.

***Puppet Show-** Prepare a 3-5 minute puppet show that teaches about your topic in an interesting way.

***Advertisement-** Using the most surprising or interesting information you discovered about your topic, design and create a fun and informative advertisement that shares this information with others.

***Jump Rope Rhyme-** To teach another aspect of your topic, write a catchy jump rope rhyme that your peers could try.

***Art project-** Complete an art project that shows some aspect of your topic. If you studied butterflies, for instance, you could make a model that shows symmetry of the wings.

***Riddles-** Gather six or more items that can each represent one thing you learned about your topic. Write a riddle for each item reminding you how it relates to your topic and attach it to the item. Place your items with their cards in a bag. Be ready to share your bag and its contents during your classroom presentation. (For example: attached to a black marble, you could have this clue-I am the color of the pupil of your eye.)

*** Game-** Create a game that when played, teaches about your topic. Be sure and include rules and all pieces needed.

***3-D Model-** Create a 3-D model or a scene in a shoebox that teaches about your topic.

Be ready to present your projects to your class!