

Jade Class 2011 Continent Party Project
Welcome to Ellis Island:
America as a ~~Melting Pot~~ Salad Bowl

This year for the continent party we are going to celebrate the uniqueness of North American culture by researching the many diverse cultures that live here. We will do this by choosing countries from our own cultural lineages to research and present. On the day of the Continent Party, we will present our findings by turning the Jade Class into Ellis Island, a place where immigrants traditionally enter into America.

For a successful project, please follow the directions below.

Step One: Trace Your Lineage *Due Friday, October 14*

Choose **one (1)** of the following options to give evidence of your cultural heritage. A rough draft of this element is due on **Friday, October 14th**.

- A **Family Tree** tracing to back to relatives who a) emigrated to North America or b) were native to this land when Europeans first began their exploration of the Americas. Your family tree should go back to at least your grandparents. At minimum, you must record names and places of birth.
- A **typed transcript (at least 1 page) of an interview** held with a member of your family over the age of 60 during which you get oral evidence of relative who a) emigrated to North America or b) were native to this land when Europeans first began their exploration of the Americas.

On this element, you must indicate which country you will be researching. You may do this by highlighting, circling, underlining or in another creative way.

Step Two: Complete Your Research *Due Friday, October 21*

Choose **five (5)** of the following aspects of culture to research and include in your project. You may use the website citationmachine.net to help you create a proper Works Cited page. A rough draft of this element, including MLA citations of your research, is due on **Friday, October 21**.

- Famous poets – a high quality project would include a brief biography of at least one poet, that poet's picture and a sample of their work. Alternatively, you could describe and include an example of a poetic style unique to the country.
- Famous authors – a high quality project would include a brief biography of at least one author, that author's picture and a sample of their work. Alternatively, you could describe and include an example of a literary genre unique to the country.

- Famous artists – a high quality project would include a brief biography of at least one artist, that artist's picture and a sample of their work. Alternatively, you could describe and include an example of an artistic style or movement unique to the country.
- Architecture – a high quality project would include a description of the architecture and photographs of buildings.
- Religious traditions – a high quality project would include descriptions of the main religious sects, some of the basic traditions and at least one visual. If you know what religion your family practiced, focus on that particular religion.
- Cuisine – a high quality project would include a description of the types of food people eat and at least one recipe that you will also prepare and bring to the Continent Party.
- Traditional music – a high quality project would include a description of the music and a recording of at least one song. You must provide a device on which the music will be played.
- Traditional dance – a high quality project would include a description of the dance and videographic evidence. You must provide a device on which the video will be played.
- Traditional clothing – a high quality project would include photographs of clothing worn by men, women and children in everyday and formal wear.
- Leisure/recreational activities – a high quality project would include written and photographic evidence of sports, family activities or other recreational activities unique to the country.

Step Three: Putting it all Together *Due Thursday, October 27*

Design a tri-fold presentation board to include the following elements:

- Your Name
- Country Name
- Family Tree or Interview
- At least 5 Cultural Elements
- A References or Works Cited Sheet

For a high quality project, all elements should be placed on the board in an organized and aesthetically pleasing fashion. Text should be easy to read. All sections should be properly labeled. Color and decorative elements should enhance not detract from the project.

Have fun and happy researching!