Directions and Rubric for Scientist Showcase Assignment

The female and minority scientist report is a mini research assignment. You will investigate a female and/or minority scientist using encyclopedia-like resources or biographies. For your scientist, create a short report on his/her life. You must include the following information:

* What the scientist researched and how (s)he got into that field of study
* The career-related challenges faced by the scientist and how (s)he responded to those challenges
* How the scientist’s work aligns with the NGSS Content Standards, Cross Cutting Concepts, and Scientific Practices
* Examples of how you would work this into your lessons with your students
* Citations and a reference list

In addition, you must create a presentation about your scientist to share with us in class. You can be as creative as you want – if you prefer, a diorama, a reenactment, poster presentation, pizza box diagram, or other method of delivery is fine **as long as the report is included.** Please be sure that your presentation is something that your elementary students could do, and that you could show them as a model for their own work. Be prepared to talk with your classmates about your scientists and what their life stories show us about the nature of science.

You will want to get your scientist approved, so that we do not have duplicates in class.

RECOMMENDED STARTING PLACES:

<http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/lists/all/>

<http://womenshistory.about.com/od/airspacesciencemath/tp/Famous-Women-Scientists.htm>

<http://famousfemalescientists.com>

<http://www.eiu.edu/wism/about_biographies.php>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_African-American_inventors_and_scientists>

<http://www.famousscientists.org/15-famous-black-scientists-in-history/>

<http://www.biography.com/people/groups/famous-black-scientists>

<http://goldsea.com/Personalities/Brilliant/brilliant.html>

<http://www.asianscientist.com/2011/05/features/the-ultimate-list-15-asian-scientists-watch/>

Rubric for Scientist Showcase Assignment

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| **CATEGORY** | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| Quality of Information | Information clearly relates to the main topic. Each of the criteria (history of scientist\'s research interests, challenges faced, connections to NGSS Content Standards, Cross Cutting Concepts, and Practices) are included. | Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 3-4 of the required criteria. | Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes 2 of the required criteria. | Information includes only 1 or none of the required criteria. |
| Sources | All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented in APA format. | All sources (information and graphics) are accurately documented, but are not consistently in APA format. | All sources (information and graphics) are documented, but are not in APA format. | Some sources are not accurately documented. |
| Connections to Lessons | The paper and presentation clearly link the scientist to lessons for the elementary school classroom; connections are easy for students to understand and are grade-level appropriate. | The paper and presentation clearly link the scientist to lessons for the elementary school classroom; but connections are too difficult for students to understand OR are not grade-level appropriate. | The paper and presentation clearly link the scientist to lessons for the elementary school classroom; but connections are too difficult for students to understand AND are not grade-level appropriate. | Connections are not made between the scientist and the lessons for the elementary classroom. |
| Mechanics | No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors. | Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors | A few grammatical spelling, or punctuation errors. | Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors. |
| Presentation | The presentation is engaging, informative, and helps students to make connections between the scientist and their unit of study. The presentation is age-appropriate. | The presentation is somewhat engaging, informative, and helps students to make weak connections between the scientist and their unit of study. The presentation is age-appropriate. | The presentation is not engaging or informative, nor does it help students to make connections between the scientist and their unit of study. The presentation is age-appropriate. | The presentation is not age appropriate or is not included. |