

DISCOVERY QUEST & CURRENT EVENTS

Discovery Quest is an oral question-of-the-week or current events activity that allows students to learn public speaking skills and independent research skills. Students should prepare to participate once a month. Eight names will be drawn randomly each Friday for participation the next week until everyone has had a turn.

Enclosed is a list of "quests" or research topics for this first trimester. Each student should use books, magazines, reference books, family member interviews, or research tools such as the Internet to learn about the topic. If students would like to do a current event instead of a Discovery Quest, students may use their *4th Grade Scholastic News Magazine* for current events topics.

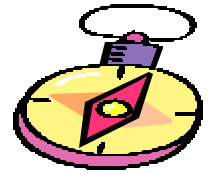
Students receive full credit, 100%, if they participate. Acceptable participation means that they DO NOT read their information, but they tell us what they have learned. Students may bring pictures, posters they've made, or visual aid items. Students may invite a guest to speak, bring a video clip (no full movies, please) or other creative way to share their learning with the class.

This activity should be a fun way to study something that is interesting to the student. Look at the attached list of quest topics for this trimester. Select the most interesting to study. If some are not of interest, plan to present a current event selection from a newspaper. These can be from the classroom newspaper or one from home.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs. Renz

A list of the topics for the year can be found on our website:
<http://www.redmond.k12.or.us/mccall/renz/discoveryquest.htm>

Students, if you choose to present a current event instead of a Discovery Quest, you will write a paragraph or two explaining: *who was involved, what happened, where it happened, why is it interesting or important, and how the problem or situation was solved.* Remember to use topic sentences to start each paragraph and of course, use proper capitalization and punctuation. Be sure to practice your speech ahead of time so you aren't reading it word for word. 😊



DISCOVERY QUEST SPEECH - SEPTEMBER TOPICS

1. Discover where your name came from. (This could be your first, middle, or last name, or even a nickname.)
2. Discover your special "place to love," and tell us why you love being there. You might share something you have that reminds you of that place.
3. Discover natural disasters. Think of some ideas for how much of the damage might be avoided or lessened.
4. Discover an Oregon symbol. (bird, flower, animal etc.) Tell why it was selected and what it stands for.

DISCOVERY QUEST SPEECH - OCTOBER TOPICS

1. Discover a career (grown-up job) that interests you that requires science, math, or both.
2. Discover superstitions and/or "old wives" tales. Tell about one and its history (how it started).

DISCOVERY QUEST SPEECH - NOVEMBER TOPICS

1. Discover how to prevent/reduce crime in Redmond.
2. Discover a famous Oregonian, past or present. Tell us about him/her, his/her life, and why he/she became famous.
3. Discover how memories are preserved, past or present. What does your family do to preserve special memories?

DISCOVERY QUEST SPEECH - DECEMBER TOPICS

1. Discover the law of supply and demand. How does it affect the cost of your holiday gifts?
2. What holiday traditions does your family have that come from other countries or cultures?