The Famous Scientist Biography Extravaganza

Your mission is to teach the class about a scientist. You must select one of the following formats:

1) presentation with dress-up as the scientist (four or more pieces of uniquely identifiable clothing/props)
2) presentation by building a scale model of the invention you are researching
3) create an iMovie that highlights your scientist (script required)
4) create a Google Slide presentation
5) interview the inventor (for drama lovers – script required – live OR recorded)
6) presentation with a written report
7) presentation with an original song about the invention
8) presentation using one or more drawings about the invention

You will pick a person who interests you. This person can be from the past or currently living.

You’ll do your research using books (minimum: 4) and the internet (minimum: 4). There are books in the library, or you can ask Dr. O to approve a book that you suggest. I’ll be giving you a list of web sites to use.

You will give a 10 to 15 minute presentation about your scientist. Think about learning preferences when planning how to teach your classmates. Posters for spatial learners, hand-outs for linguistic learners, or games for kinesthetic learners are some possibilities, but you may have plenty more ideas.

Remember: This person should be interesting to you. Maybe your scientist had a really interesting life, or maybe he or she is changing the world in a way that inspires you. Maybe your scientist studies something you might like to study someday.
These questions will guide your research:

What does this person study?

What are some of the discoveries he or she made? How did he or she make these discoveries?

**VERY IMPORTANT**: What is the **benefit to society** this discovery provided?

**VERY IMPORTANT**: What were one or more key **challenges** faced by this scientist?

**VERY IMPORTANT**: With whom did this scientist **collaborate**? How did this collaboration fit into the picture of your scientist’s discovery?

Scientific discoveries always happen because of other discoveries that came before. What did this person already know when he or she asked important questions?

Why did this person want to become scientist?

What are some other interesting stories about this person’s life?

Why did you choose him or her? What was interesting about this discovery?

Some Tips:

If you use a poster or hand-out, **DON’T** just read what’s on it. Use the materials to guide your teaching, but pretend you’re just talking to friends. This makes it more interesting to listen to your presentation.

You can’t say everything about your person, so try to choose the most interesting facts. If you think something you read is boring, you don’t need to share it.

It’s a good idea to share some information about what your person studied. For example, if your person studied “botany,” tell us about what that is. This may require some research on a topic in addition to the person.
Scientist Presentation Proposal (Due by 02/9/18)

Name: ______________________________

1. My proposed scientist is:

2. I chose this person because:

3. As I start my research, it seems like this person meets the following guidelines:

   What is the benefit to society this discovery provided?

   What were one or more key challenges faced by this scientist?

   With whom did this scientist collaborate?

4. When I teach the class, I think it will be like this (for example, I will talk about this; I will build this; I will show pictures of this etc.) It’s O.K. to change. This question is just to get your thoughts rolling.
The Famous Scientist Biography Checklist (due 02/23/18)

- INVENTOR: I have included information about the inventor’s experiences growing up
- INVENTOR: I have included information about the inventor’s education – elementary, secondary, or college and beyond
- INVENTOR: I have included information about the influences on the inventor’s life that were relevant to the invention

- INVENTION: I have included information about the need that was met by this invention
- INVENTION: I have included information about what was new about this invention
- INVENTION: I have included information about whether this invention is still in use today

- BOTH: I have included information about the benefit to society this invention provided
- BOTH: I have included information about the challenges faced by this inventor
- BOTH: I have included information about some of the collaborations that were part of the inventor’s life