

Civics Summer Assignment



Welcome to Civics!

Civics is defined as “*the study of the rights and duties of citizenship.*” Here in Massachusetts, the first stirrings of the heart of our nation began and an enduring legacy of citizenship was established. All over our region are monuments, markers, acknowledgements, historic sites, museums, and so many other landmarks that attest to that history. Your task this summer is to find one - and learn about it!

Mr. Rucho

SELECT A SITE

1. Find a historic site. It may be as close as a neighborhood street corner, a Worcester landmark, or any other site across this great state.

Here are some links to explore if you need help finding a site:

<https://www.worcesterhistory.org/>

<https://www.discovercentralma.org/see-do/attractions/historic-sites-homes/>

<https://www.mass.gov/topics/historic-sites>

<https://nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/ma/worcester/state.html>

If you are having difficulty finding a site, email me at trucho@nda-worc.org from your school email. Introduce yourself, tell me what area you live in or are visiting, and I will be happy to help!

VISIT THE SITE

Plan a day/time to visit the site you have selected. Most likely you'll need to include family on this venture for transportation purposes, so allow them a say in the site selection!

Research the site before you go. Learn all you can about it so you'll be prepared and know what to expect. When you are there, read any promotional material or plaques.

Take notes when you are there. Either have a notepad or use your phone. Record facts and details you learned. Also, jot down your thoughts, impressions, reflections.

Take some photographs of the site, and **be sure to include a picture of YOU at the site!**

WRITE ABOUT IT

Write a 2 paragraph review of the site and your experience. Ideally, create a Google Doc in your school drive. This is **due at the first class**, when I will ask you to upload it to our Google Classroom.

Paragraph # 1 - Introduce the site and include: *These are not required questions but rather prompts you may consider for your response.*

- The name, date, and location of the site you visited
- Who you were with
- Describe the building (what does the monument, marker, etc. look like?)
- Explain what historical event is being commemorated.
- Include when it took place and why it is significant.

Paragraph # 2 - Write about your impressions and reflections:

- Was the site what you expected?
- How/why was it different?
- What surprised or confused you?
- Is the person or event worthy of commemoration?
- Would you recommend it to other students? (why or why not)
- How did you feel about having to do this assignment?
- **Include the photo you took of you at the site.**

Edit, revise and proofread!

- Use formal language.
- Write as if you are reviewing the site for a publication.
- Check spelling, grammar and mechanics.

Be prepared to share your experience.

- In the first few classes you will be asked to share your experience.
- You are not expected to read your response aloud.
- Summarize the ideas you wrote about in your own words.
- Focus on your overall experience.

RUBRIC = Total of 8 points possible

| | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
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| Para. # 1 | Thorough presentation of facts & details. Vivid description of the site. Complete understanding of the historical person /event is evident. | Accurate presentation of facts & details. Clear description of the site. Good understanding of the historical person /event is evident. | General presentation of facts & details. Limited description of the site. Basic understanding of the historical person /event is evident. | Imprecise presentation of facts & details. Vague description of the site. Misunderstanding of the historical person /event is evident. |
| Para. # 2 | Insightful review of the site including ample personal impressions, reflections & opinions. | Careful review of the site including some personal impressions, reflections & opinions. | General review of the site including limited personal impressions, reflections & opinions. | Minimal review of the site including few if any personal impressions, reflections & opinions. |