Sharing Your Work

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Writing Ideas

However you share your information, your goal should be to show it, not tell it. Your own writer's voice should shine through and since you don't sound like an encyclopedia when you talk, your writing shouldn't either. Click on this <u>comparison</u> to see what we mean.

You will have a lot of information to share in your Honors Project, however that doesn't mean that you have to write a traditional "report." You certainly can if you wish, but you could also choose a different way to write about your learning.

- **I Search** The I-Search is the story of your quest for information. It shares both the information you found *and* the process you went through to find it. You begin by explaining how you came to be interested in your topic. You then share what questions you had and how you went about answering them. As you tell the story, you share the information you found. Often, looking for information leads to more questions and you share those, too. You close by sharing how this work has changed you and what further questions you want to explore now.
- **Information Book** Create a book for our library. Illustrate the book with images that you have drawn or collected. Bind the book. (Note: sometimes we create simple books for younger children. In this case, you should create a book for your peers. If you wish, you can create another, simpler book for younger students.)
- **Creative Journal or Diary** Share your information in diary format. This does not work equally well for all subjects, however it can be a powerful way to share information about a historical time or figure. SOME WORDS OF CAUTION: be careful not to get caught up in the "plot" of your diary. Its primary purpose is to share *all* the information you found and would have put into a more formal report.
- **Epistolary Report** Share your information in a series of letters. This format works especially well for biographical reports but can be creatively modified for other topics. SOME WORDS OF CAUTION: be careful not to get caught up in "small talk" in your letters. "How are you? Fine, how are you?" is not important. Remember, your primary purpose is to share *all* the information you found and would have put into a more formal report.

Presentation/Teaching Ideas

When you share your work in your presentation, you do not have to simply read your report and answer questions. In fact, we hope you explore other ways to engage your audience. Think of yourself as a teacher. Here are some ideas:

- **Take on a persona** become someone related to your project and have him or her teach the audience about your subject. Dress up and get into character.
- **Demonstrations** Look for elements of your topic that you could show people instead of just telling about
- **Talk Show Format** Work with a parent, mentor, sibling, or classmate to create a talk show. They are the host and ask you the questions -- you share the story and information.
- Activity teachers often try to get students to understand by having students do something. You can, too! Create a lesson plan to teach your "class" about your topic and include an activity to help them learn.
- Movie/Video If well done, a video can really help people understand your topic. Edit carefully. Make sure it teaches what you want it to quickly and clearly.