PERFORMANCE TASK : Genealogist: Helping Individuals Understand Their Genetic History

General Instructions:

In this task you will act as the genealogist. You are to interview and individual to gain more insight on their family history and culture. This individual can be a parent, a sibling, a friend, or even a stranger.   From this interview you are going to create three artifacts:

-An Eportfolio: Here you will gather evidence that represent the genetic history of your individual. You need to include the results from your interview, a family tree, and at least two artifacts that represent that persons background (pictures, videos, ect.)

-A graphic organizer: Here you will team up with at least one other member of the class to show how your individuals are different or similar. This should be a visual and help is to understand the culture and diversity that exist within our community. You should look to highlight at least three differences. If you cannot find anyone to pair up with, you are free to use the sample interview to compare your individual to.

-A newspaper article: The local newspaper is very interested in your work. The newspaper's Science Editor is curious about DNA testing. Your team has been asked to construct a narrative explaining the value of DNA testing in genealogy. You should explain the science of DNA and how it provides information of previous generations and this generation. This narrative will be the featured article in the Sunday newspaper. You should also try to persuade community members to take a DNA test to gather more information for the project.

BIG IDEA:

- Information to gain or expand knowledge can be gained through a variety of sources.
- Characteristics, distribution, and migration of human populations impact culture, economic interdependence, and settlement patterns.
- DNA carries the genetic instructions for all living organisms.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- How do we use information gained through research to expand knowledge?
- How does human population movement impact culture and economy?
- Why is DNA important for living things?

OVERVIEW:

Genealogy is the study of unique family histories. This study uses a variety of resources to gather information including DNA testing. A family's lineage can ideally be traced back to the founder of the family. The further back in history the research goes the more difficult it becomes to find answers. Numerous online resources are available to help the researcher gather information.

GOAL:

Your goal is to develop a website that uses genealogy processes to help a local community trace its past and present based upon the current residents of the community. You will need to help the residents trace their family histories to help everyone understand the diversity of the community through artifacts, oral histories, and potential DNA testing.

ROLE:

You are part of a team of genealogists who have just created a new, online business connecting communities and family history. A local community has just hired your business as consultants for a project they are beginning to be launched at the anniversary of the community's founding.

AUDIENCE:

Your audience will be interested members of the community and community officials who will be supporting your work. They will be interested in seeing examples of certain processes you may suggest.

SITUATION:

Genealogy is the study of unique family histories. This study uses a variety of resources to gather information including DNA testing. A family's lineage can ideally be traced back to the founder of the family. The further back in history the research goes the more difficult it becomes to find answers. Numerous online resources are available to help the researcher gather information.

PRODUCTS:

Eportfolio

- Create an electronic portfolio of numerous artifacts that you have gathered from the individual selected to be interview. These artifacts can be copied or pictures taken for inclusion within the portfolio. These artifacts should represent information related to family history, culture, and lives.

Graphic Organizer

- Create a graphic organizer that draws connections and highlights differences among the individuals your group members have selected to interview. This visual will be on display for the citizens to help them gain a greater understanding of the culture and diversity that exists within their community.

Newspaper Article

- The local newspaper is very interested in your work. The newspaper's Science Editor is curious about DNA testing. Your team has been asked to construct a narrative explaining the value of DNA testing in genealogy. You should explain the science of DNA and how it provides information of previous generations and this generation. This narrative will be the featured article in the Sunday newspaper. You should also try to persuade community members to take a DNA test to gather more information for the project.

RUBRICS:

Eportfolio - Genealogist: Helping Individuals Understand Their Genetic History

Weights	1	2	3	4
Design (x1)	Overall appearance is disorganized with minimal graphics and images providing minimal understanding.	Overall appearance is somewhat logical and organized with some graphics and images that are attractive and provide some understanding.	Overall appearance is logical with an audience friendly flow that includes graphics and images that are attractive and enhance basic understanding.	Overall appearance is logical and organized with an audience friendly flow that includes graphics and images that are attractive and critical to understanding.
Individual Identity (x1)	Product demonstrates minimal understanding of an individual's identity based upon the artifacts selected related to culture, family history, and their life.	Product demonstrates some understanding of an individual's identity based upon the artifacts selected related to culture, family history, and their life.	Product demonstrates adequate understanding of an individual's identity based upon the artifacts selected related to culture, family history, and their life.	Product demonstrates strong understanding of an individual's identity based upon the artifacts selected related to culture, family history, and their life.
Artifacts (x1)	The artifacts presented somewhat reinforce the design selected and include representations to help the audience understand the problem solving process.	The artifacts presented somewhat reinforce the design selected and include representations to help the audience understand the problem solving process.	The artifacts presented reinforce the design selected and include many representations to help the audience understand the problem solving process.	The artifacts presented strongly reinforce the design selected and include appropriate representations to help the audience understand the problem solving process.
ePortfolio Completion (x1)	The electronic portfolio presents minimal artifacts, data, and information.	The electronic portfolio presents some artifacts, data, and appropriate information in a somewhat audience friendly manner.	The electronic portfolio presents a majority of needed artifacts, data, and appropriate information in a primarily audience friendly manner.	The electronic portfolio exceptionally presents the artifacts, data, and appropriate information in an audience friendly manner.
Interview Component (x1)	Creates questions related to culture and family history that promote yes or no answers, hindering the interpretation of those answers to address research questions.	Creates questions related to culture and family history that promote superficial answers, allowing for some organization and interpretation of those answers to partially address research questions.	Creates questions related to culture and family history that promote answers with some detail, allowing for the organization and interpretation of those answers to address research questions.	Creates questions related to culture and family history that promote in-depth answers, allowing for the organization and interpretation of those answers to fully address research questions.
Family Tree (x1)	Family tree is absent or incomplete.	Family tree traces lineage back at least three generations.	Family tree includes complex familial relations including deceased relatives, half siblings, aunts and uncles, ect.	Family tree includes complex familial relations including deceased relatives, half siblings, aunts and uncles, ect. Included is also information about individuals affected by genetic disorders.

Graphic Organizer - Genealogist: Helping Individuals Understand Their Genetic History

Weights	1	2	3	4
Group and Individual Interactions (x1)	The graphic organizer displays minimal interactions between individuals, groups, and cultures that contribute to the dynamic nature of a community	The graphic organizer displays some interactions between individuals, groups, and cultures that contribute to the dynamic nature of a community.	The graphic organizer displays interactions between individuals, groups, and cultures that contribute to the dynamic nature of a community.	The graphic organizer displays varied interactions between individuals, groups, and cultures that contribute to the dynamic nature of a community.
General Formatting (x1)	Lined paper is used and/or computer graphic tool is not used for design. The drawing is too large or too small to be clear. There is a no figure caption.	Unlined paper is used and/or computer graphic tool is used for design. The drawing is too large or too small to be clear. There is a figure caption that describes the drawing.	Unlined paper is used and/or computer graphic tool is used for design. The drawing is large enough to be clear (about 1/2 of a page of typing paper). There is a figure caption that describes the drawing.	Unlined paper is used and/or computer graphic tool is used for design. The drawing is large enough to be clear (about 1/2 of a page of typing paper). There is a figure caption that describes the drawing. The caption includes information about the graphic design, when appropriate.

Newspaper Article - Genealogist: Helping Individuals Understand Their Genetic History

Weights	1	2	3	4
Article Structure (x1)	A headline is present and the article is a narrative that fairly describes the central idea.	A headline is present that captures the article's focus. The article is a narrative that describes the central idea.	A headline is present that captures the article's focus and is somewhat interesting for the audience. The article has an introduction, body and conclusion all generally focused around a central idea.	A headline is present that captures the article's focus as well as the audience's attention. The article has a strong introduction, body and conclusion all focused around a central idea.
Writing Conventions (x1)	The final product contains many errors of spelling, grammar or syntax. The article is poorly written.	The final product contains some errors of spelling, grammar or syntax. The article is written using a singular voice.	The final product contains minimal errors of spelling, grammar or syntax. The article is written using a singular voice.	The final product contains no errors of spelling, grammar or syntax. The article is written using a singular voice.
Information Literacy (x1)	The writer does not utilize information from sources.	The writer utilizes information from sources and presents it accurately using an ethical lens.	The writer evaluates information competently and presents it accurately using an appropriate ethical lens.	The writer evaluates information critically and competently to present information creatively and accurately using an appropriate ethical lens.
DNA and genes (x1)	Product demonstrates minimal understanding of the way genes are passed from parent to offspring and determine the characteristics of an organism.	Product demonstrates some understanding of the way genes are passed from parent to offspring and determine the characteristics of an organism.	Product demonstrates adequate understanding of the way genes are passed from parent to offspring and determine the characteristics of an organism.	Product demonstrates strong understanding of the way genes are passed from parent to offspring and determine the characteristics of an organism.
Detail Accuracy (x1)	Some facts presented in the article are accurate and support the topic.	Most facts presented in the article are accurate and support the topic. Details present a synopsis of the topic.	Almost all facts presented in the article are accurate and strongly support the topic. Details are clear and present a synopsis of the topic.	All facts presented in the article are accurate and strongly support the topic. Details are clear and present an engaging synopsis of the topic.