

Sample Topics for this Year's National History Day Theme

Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History

The following list is intended to provide students with examples of the sorts of topics that might work for this year's History Day theme. Choosing one of the topics below will not increase or decrease a student's chances of doing well at a History Day contest.

- ◆ Commodore Matthew Perry and Exchange with Japan
- ◆ The Transcontinental Railroad: Connecting East and West
- ◆ James Cook and the European Encounter with Oceania
- ◆ Exploration and Ice: Encountering the North Pole
- ◆ The Magellan Spacecraft and the Planet Venus
- ◆ The Silk Road and Cultural Exchange
- ◆ American Missionaries, China, and Religious Encounters
- ◆ Exploring Faith: The Mormon Encounter with the West
- ◆ Sigmund Freud: Exploring the Mind
- ◆ Galileo: Exploring the Universe, Encountering Resistance
- ◆ Athens and Sparta: Military Encounter and Exchange
- ◆ The Boxer Rebellion: China's Encounter with Western Power
- ◆ Alexander the Great, Military Encounter, and Cultural Exchange
- ◆ The New York Stock Exchange: Money as Power
- ◆ Exploring the Boundaries of Theater: Bertolt Brecht Expands the Stage
- ◆ Margaret Mead: Exploring Human Development
- ◆ Diplomatic Encounter: The SALT Talks
- ◆ Encounters with Nature: The Creation of FEMA
- ◆ Exploring New Opportunities: Women in the Military
- ◆ Britain, France, Native America: The Seven Years' War
- ◆ Glorious Revolution, Exchange of Power
- ◆ Exchange between France and the United States: The Louisiana Purchase
- ◆ Exploring the Skies: The First Flight
- ◆ Marco Polo, Venice, and China
- ◆ FateFul Exchange: Zimmerman's Telegram
- ◆ Hip Encounters: Elvis, the Blues, and Rock & Roll
- ◆ Exploring African-American Culture: The Harlem Renaissance
- ◆ Intimate Exchange: The Letters of Abigail and John Adams
- ◆ Encountering Electricity: Thomas Edison and the Light Bulb
- ◆ Expanding the Boundaries of Dance: Martha Graham
- ◆ Exploring the Heart: Encounters in Open Heart Surgery
- ◆ Malcolm X Encounters Africa
- ◆ The Sioux and the Fate of the Fort Laramie Treaty
- ◆ The Hawley-Smoot Tariff: Limiting Exchange
- ◆ Exploring the Atom: Nuclear Power
- ◆ The Sherman Anti-Trust Act and Corporate Exchange
- ◆ King Leopold and the Belgian Congo
- ◆ Fostering Peaceful Exchange: The Creation of the United Nations
- ◆ Encountering Civil Rights: Brown vs Board of Education
- ◆ Exploring Stronger Government: From the Articles of Confederation to the Constitution
- ◆ Exploring America: The Immigrant and the United States
- ◆ Polio Vaccine: Exploring Disease Control
- ◆ Cold War Encounters: The United States and the Soviet Union
- ◆ Encountering Apartheid: Nelson Mandela
- ◆ Exploration in Science: Marie Curie Encounters Radium
- ◆ Encounter in Little Rock: Desegregating Central High School
- ◆ Lexington and Concord, Redcoats and Patriots
- ◆ Silver and Gold: Currency in the Late-Nineteenth Century United States
- ◆ Exploring the Past: Herodotus and History
- ◆ Exploring Society through Literature: Charles Dickens
- ◆ Encountering the Environment: Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*
- ◆ Encouraging Economic Exchange: The Marshall Plan in Postwar Europe
- ◆ Jane Goodall: Encounter with Primates
- ◆ Corn, Potatoes, and Chocolate: Europe's Culinary Encounter with the New World
- ◆ Encountering Communism: The Creation of NATO
- ◆ Exploring New Political Ideas: Locke, Hobbes, and Rousseau