

TURNING POINTS

*PIVOTAL MOMENTS IN
HUMAN HISTORY: AN
INDEPENDENT STUDY*



DEAR PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND PEAKERS,

Last week at PEAK we started our new unit of study – Independent Study! Students brainstormed ideas for their topic. I encouraged them to think BIG – what do you like, where are your interests, what do you want to learn more about? Students listed as many possible ideas as they could and then shared some of their ideas with classmates. Students were able to “steal” ideas from each other if they really liked something shared. I spent some time with students exploring more ideas by using an interest inventory list. This is a long list of possible topics and we discussed many of them. In the end, students narrowed their list down to about three and did some instant research on each one. This was one last opportunity to make them decide. At the end of the day, students shared with classmates their choice for their Independent Study and provided a couple of interesting facts they learned about it. We are ready to move forward!

Next week students will be webbing! Webbing is a tool used to generate ideas. Many of the Independent Study topics are very broad and they need to be focused. Webbing allows students to narrow their idea or focus their interest on something they can work on and complete in 6-7 weeks! Webbing will also help them with their research as it often provides starting points or avenues for where to start. Before we get started on research, I will be giving the students a media literacy lesson. They will learn a bit about how the internet started, its organization, tips for searching online, as well as learning that not everything found online is accurate or even true!

I have plans in place to visit the Lewis and Clark Library. As it stands, Thursday PEAK students will be going next week (Feb. 1), then the rest of the PEAK days will travel the following week (Feb. 5-7) - See the Calendar! However, this is not yet confirmed. When it is, I'll let everyone know! I have sent home applications for library cards. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me. The goal is for every student to have a card!

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES: (JAN. 29 – FEB. 2)

<u>Creativity: Webbing</u> – I can effectively use webbing to develop a 2-tier web of ideas.	<u>Creating a Web of Ideas!</u> – Student will begin to narrow their topic idea down into a more specific and functional aspect, using a technique called webbing.
<u>Creativity/Intrapersonal</u> – I can express my own interests, values, emotions, etc. to complete works to share information clearly and effectively.	<u>Tracking our Progress</u> - Students will draw/sketch/create a personalized avatar that will be put up on our Independent Study map in the classroom. This map will allow students to gauge their progress in the independent study process.
<u>Critical Thinking: Media Literacy</u> – I can use media literacy skills to determine whether media sources may be appropriate for use in a project.	<u>Finding What I Need!</u> – Students will learn about the world wide web, how it is set up, and how to effectively navigate the internet looking for information useful to their study.

SO MANY GREAT IDEAS!

MR. CURRIER

PEAK CALENDAR – SPRING 2024

29 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	30 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	31 Four Georgians Hawthorne	FEB 1 Broadwater Bryant Smith Trip to L&C Library	2
5 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	6 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	7 Four Georgians Hawthorne	8 Broadwater Bryant Smith	9 Trip to Lewis and Clark Library – Independent Study Research
12 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	13 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	14 Four Georgians Hawthorne	15 Broadwater Bryant Smith	16 GT4 students attend PEAK at Four Georgians with Mr. Slead (get on the other bus!)
19 President's Day – No School	20 Jim Darcy Kessler Central Jefferson Rossiter Warren	21 Four Georgians Hawthorne	22 Broadwater Bryant Smith	23
26 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	27 Jim Darcy Kessler Central	28 Four Georgians Hawthorne	29 Broadwater Bryant Smith	MAR 1
4 Jefferson Rossiter Warren	5 Jim Darcy Kessler Central GT3 Ind. Study Final Event Monday- Tuesday 5:30-6:30pm – Location TBD	6 Four Georgians Hawthorne	7 Broadwater Bryant Smith GT3 Ind. Study Final Event Wednesday- Thursday 5:30-6:30pm – Location TBD	8 GT3 Overnight Experience!