National History Day® and Oklahoma Academic Standards for Social Studies

According to the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Social Studies, beginning in sixth grade, “History/Social Studies Reading and Writing Literacy Skills are to be integrated across all content standards and used for instructional delivery of the content.”

Oklahoma National History Day (OkNHD) and National History Day (NHD) deliver standards-based, student-centered, project-based learning to achieve the integration of these standards into the classroom in an engaging and fun way.

OkNHD provides proven learning outcomes and meets the College, Career, and Citizenship (C3) Framework.

“Our state’s education system should foster citizens who can think critically and engage in the civic life of their community, the state, and nation.”—Janet Barresi, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, 2016

Through NHD students learn critical thinking, problem-solving, research, reading and writing/oral communication skills while building self-esteem and confidence, and fostering a sense of responsibility and involvement in their community.

**CONTENT**

“History Day is fabulous as it encompasses more than just history, i.e. language arts, math and science!”*

In a poll of twelve teachers, nine rated OkNHD best or better than the learning value of other classroom assignments.

**INQUIRY**

“NHD is a valuable educational tool for our students: they learn the research process, use higher order thinking relating topics to the theme and learn how to present themselves to judges. It is a great return on investment.”

Of 90 students polled, 67 rated OkNHD much more interesting than other class projects.

**LITERACY**

OkNHD encourages students to utilize local and regional research sources.

At least 60% of students utilized their school library, 53% a public library, 20% museums and historic sites, 30% other research sources.

**CITIZENSHIP**

“Increases communication skills, research skills and promotes self-motivation.”

“My kiddos are more confident and outgoing. They work better on group projects are more organized with time and schoolwork. Great research and speaking skills too!”

*All quotations and statistics from 2016 OkNHD teacher, student, and parent evaluations.*
How NHD Helps Meet Classroom Standards

“National History Day is a flexible program that provides everything teachers need to bring students on an unforgettable journey that integrates into—and enhances—standards-based curriculum. With sample topics, a guide to conducting historical research in the classroom, lesson plans, and more, NHD supports and guides educators and students through the entire school year.” — Findings from National Program Evaluation, 2010

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<tr>
<th>Oklahoma Academic Standards Expectations of Teachers/Students:</th>
<th>NHD-OK Rubric Through NHD Students Will:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content</td>
<td>• Form thesis statements based on self-directed research questions</td>
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<td>• Support claims with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence</td>
<td>• Research claims to support (or refute) their thesis</td>
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Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, use search terms effectively, quote or paraphrase data and conclusions of others correctly

• Use multiple resources, including both primary and secondary historical sources, and conduct extensive analysis for applicability to their research question and thesis
• Employ standard citation format and turn in annotated bibliographies
• Research and present their thesis and research in multiple formats

Analysis of primary/secondary sources:
• Determine central ideas or information of source and provide summary of the source
• Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic

• Analyze primary and secondary resources and determine their main idea to see if it can be used to prove their thesis statement
• Learn to differentiate between primary and secondary sources for their process paper

• Organize ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories-formatting, graphics and multimedia
• Integrate visual information with other information in print and digital texts

• Structure of project research and presentation teaches students how to organize their findings
• Encouraged to utilize graphics to supplement project text
• NHD has strict rules on word count and time limits which forces precision in student work

Determine significance of an event and its connection to previous and future historical events

• Use key steps, details, and cause/effect to both deconstruct and synthesize relationships between events of their topic to create greater understanding and critically evaluate consequences
• Conclude any presentation format with summary of thesis and how it relates to broader historic significance

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience

• Every project category requires students to write text (scripts, narrations, captions/labels, etc.)
• Writing must be formal, structured on cause and effect, argument and supported by primary and secondary sources
• Write process paper that outlines how resources were used