

Courage Research Project

Students will research a courageous figure and create a poster highlighting their actions and impact. Working individually or in groups, students will deliver a 2-3 minute presentation with their poster and optional speaker notes.

Kindness Concept(s)

Courage, Kindness

Project Timeframe

25-30 minutes

Required Materials

- Poster size: 24x36 inches (or as determined by the teacher)
- Art materials for poster development
- Note cards: 1-2 note cards allowed to aid in the presentation

Preparation:

Teachers can pre-select research topics or give students the opportunity to select from the supplied list (or a self-generated list). This project can dovetail with social studies or ELA lessons as well.

Instructions:

Determine if students will work independently or in small groups (no more than 4 people). Give students the opportunity to select a research subject from the following list or from a list you generate (or let students pick a person on their own if they have someone they would like to research). Their research subject needs to be a person who has demonstrated courage as defined in the RAK lessons.

Here are some possible subjects:

- Rosa Parks
- Helen Keller
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Amelia Earhart
- George Washington Carver
- Mahatma Gandhi
- Nelson Mandela
- Harriet Tubman
- Malala Yousafzai
- Neil Armstrong
- Sally Ride
- Marie Curie
- Norman Borlaug
- Jackie Robinson
- Bethany Hamilton
- Katherine Johnson
- Ruby Bridges

Poster components:

1. At least 3 visual representations of the person and his/her contributions of courage
2. Definition of courage ("Being brave when facing new or difficult circumstances")
3. Summary of how the person demonstrated courage
4. One lesson this person can teach or has taught the rest of us about courage

Poster size: 24x36 inches (or as determined by the teacher)

Note cards: 1-2 note cards allowed to aid in the presentation

Step 1- Research

Review how to conduct accurate research. Provide solid websites for them based on their topics (science, social justice etc.). Avoid anything political or too mature for the student focus. Kiddle is a kid-friendly search engine that you may want to use: <https://www.kiddle.co/>

Step 2- Poster Creation

Allow two days for poster creation. Students may work on these outside of school and collaborate together (if in groups) during work time at school.

Wrap Up:

Take 1-2 days to allow students to present their posters. Have students hang their posters up either in the classroom or in the hallway. Design a header or title for the poster section to highlight that these posters represent people of courage.



The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SElect Program and is included in the [CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs](#).

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

<https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/>