

BIOGRAPHY PUPPET



Time: approximately 45-90 minutes (can be divided into separate blocks)

Instructional Goals:

- The student will use the PebbleGo Biographies online database to research an important historical figure.
- The student will navigate an online database to locate needed information.
- The student will be introduced to the term *biography*.
- The student will be introduced to the term *bibliography* and the importance of giving credit to a source during research.

Materials/Resources:

- PebbleGo Biographies online database
- Biography Puppet page (copy on cardstock for each student)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Crayons
- Popsicle sticks (one for each student)

Directions:

Focus

1. Tell students they are going to create a puppet that looks like a famous person from history.
2. Discuss with students the term *biography*. Define the term, and as a class, brainstorm different people in history.

Teach/Model

3. Walk students through the process of accessing PebbleGo Biographies online database.
4. Show students how subject directory searching works by navigating through the subject directory pictures in PebbleGo Biographies. Show students keyword searching by using the Search box at the top of the screen. Use names from the class brainstorming list of historical figures as examples.
5. Explain the difference between the two types of searching. Let students know they can use either search strategy while completing this activity.
6. Demonstrate the read-aloud function by clicking on the appropriate button and listening to the text being read aloud.
7. Show students the tabs at the top of the screen that allow them to scroll through the biographical information.
8. Demonstrate how students can use the buttons to watch a video.



9. Show the students how they can look through the different pictures of a person. Explain that they will need to use the pictures to help them with their Biography Puppet activity.
10. Show students how to choose a picture of a person and print it out.

Guided Practice

11. Show students the Biography Puppet page.
12. Explain to students what a *bibliography* is and why it is important to give credit to their research source. Tell students that the source they are using for this research is called PebbleGo Biographies. They will need to write the source title (PebbleGo Biographies) in their bibliography when they are finished with their research.
13. Explain that students will research a person in PebbleGo Biographies. If they already know a person they want to research, they may use keyword searching to see if there is an article about that person. If they do not know who they want to research, they may use the subject directory to browse through the choices.
14. Model the process for students.

Independent Practice

15. Have students work independently.
16. When a student has found a person in PebbleGo Biographies, they will listen to the article using the read-aloud feature. They will watch the video, if one is available.
17. The student will choose one picture of their person and print it out to use while completing the Biography Puppet page.
18. When a student has completed researching their person, give them a Biography Puppet page.
19. The student will complete the Biography Puppet page by drawing and coloring a picture of the person they researched. They will also complete the bibliography.
20. Have students cut out their puppet and glue a popsicle stick to the back.
21. On the back of their puppet, have students write the name of the person they chose.
22. Monitor student progress as they work to complete the Biography Puppet activity.

Closure

23. Bring students together as a whole group. Ask for volunteers to present their puppet to the class. Have the volunteers share with the class some of the information they learned about their person.

Extend/Enrich

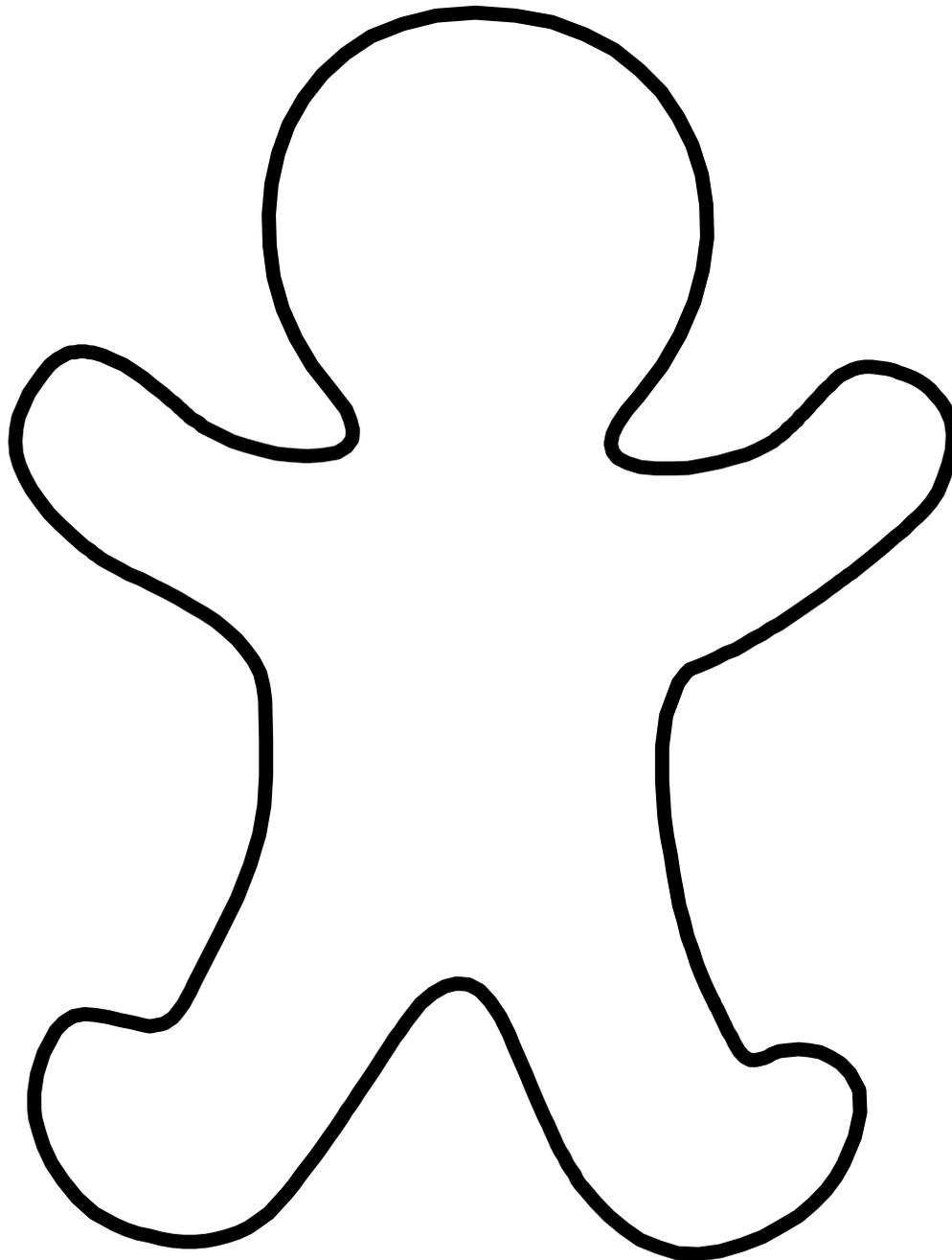
24. Students may write a sentence or a paragraph about the person they researched.
25. Students may use their puppet to act out something from that person's life.
26. Students may complete the Share What You Know page in the database for the person they researched.

Name: _____



Biography Puppet

1. Choose a person to learn about in PebbleGo Biographies.
2. Draw and color a picture of that person in the shape below.
3. Cut out the shape and glue a popsicle stick to the back to make a puppet.
4. Write the person's name on the back of your puppet.



Bibliography

I found my information in