Step 1: Brainstorm

Create questions to ask about your topic to help guide you to finding purpose in your research. Gather important details that provide interesting information about your topic.

Step 2: Create a Thesis Statement 

Come up with a question followed by a strong statement with the points you intend to describe throughout your paper. Do not use 1st person.

Ex. The geography of Greece impacted the economics, culture and the government of Greece.

Step 3: Create an Introduction Paragraph 

Open with a broad question or statement. Include the points that will be detailed in the body of the paper. Conclude the paragraph with the thesis statement you’ve constructed.

Ex. Introductory Paragraph

What is significant about the geography of Greece? Greece’s mountainous mainland is almost completely surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea and has more than 1400 islands. Many of the independent city-states of Greece relied on trade. Greeks were seafaring people and many legends of Greece included creatures that could be found across the sea. Many Greeks initially thought of themselves as members of their own city-states rather than “Greek,” which explains why there were various forms of governments that developed in Greece. The geography of Greece impacted the economics, culture and the government of Greece.

Step 4: Write the Body

The number of paragraphs in the body will depend on the number of points being made about the topic. In the example paragraph above, there are three points about how the geography impacted Greece’s economics, culture and government, therefore, there would be three separate paragraphs in the body. There may be more or less depending on what points you want to present about your topic.

Step 5: Conclusion 

Close out with final thoughts. Make sure to restate ideas from your thesis within the concluding paragraph.

\*This report may be used for the presentation if need be—or summarized on index cards but only for glancing at. You should know the information you want to present about your topic. The Museum Presentation will be January 29th regardless of the snow days. The class presentations will be January27th.

**January 25th** is the due date of the report with research forms.

**January 27th** is the due date of the product for the presentation. Class presentation day!

**January 29th** is the Museum presentation in the gym with 6th graders coming to ask you questions!

Good Luck!!!