

## “Winter Solstice Research on the Web”

**0501.4.3** Use current technology as a research and communication tool for personal interest, research, and clarification.

**0501.4.4** Gather and record information on a research topic using three different sources, at least one of which must be a print source.

**0501.4.9** Distinguish between necessary and unnecessary bibliographical information (information that should or should not be included in a citation).

**0501.4.10** Cite three or more sources, including the title, author, and page number(s).

Title: “Winter Solstice Research on the Web”

Materials:

- Pencils
- Worksheet (See following page.)
- Computers with Internet access
- WebQuest—Teacher-compiled list of reliable websites on the topic.

Activity:

- This activity is appropriate the week before Christmas vacation.
- Teacher should introduce the topic in general terms (e.g., that winter solstice falls around December 20 or 21), asking the students to find more information about the subject on the web. Students should work with a partner, assigning one person the “secretary” role (to fill out the worksheet) and the “presenter” role (to present the findings to the class).
- Students sit with a partner at the computer and click on the link to the teacher’s prepared WebQuest on winter solstice.
- Students click on one of the links and complete the first section of the worksheet, indicating the citation / source information: title, URL / web address, author, and current day’s date / date website accessed.
- Students choose interesting information from the website to document. They should paraphrase or quote directly using quotation marks. The “secretary” records their findings.
- Teacher can coach presenters on appropriate introductory phrases, e.g., “According to the website \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_, ……”  
“For further information, check out the website at www.\_\_\_\_\_.”
- “Presenter” reads her group’s findings to the class, using the above prompts.

