Famous Mathematician Project

Who: Students in Geometry

What it Means: This project will give you an introduction to the history of mathematics. Gaining a better understanding of how the mathematics that you study today first originated will help you develop an appreciation for and better understanding of the subject as a whole.

What Must Be Done: Students pick a famous mathematician, write at least a one-page paper that includes at least ten facts related to the mathematician's biographical information, along with five pieces of information regarding his or her contributions to mathematics. At least one of these contributions must answer the question, "What does this mathematician's contributions to mathematics have to do with the math I learn today?" Each biographical and mathematical fact must also be featured on a poster of the mathematician. Students must include documentation for a minimum of three sources. Your paper must have one inch margins, be double spaced, and be in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, and include a one-lined bold-faced title. Spelling and grammar will be a part of the grade.

You must also include at least three references regarding your mathematician. This must be listed on a separate page from your paper. Make sure to include the name of the source and list all relative publishing information. If your source is a web site, be sure to include the web address.

Your poster must contain the ten biographical facts and the five items regarding your mathematician's contributions to mathematics. The poster must also contain a picture (as best as possible) of your mathematician.

You must have your mathematician approved. I do not want more than one project per class done on any one mathematician. The sooner you have your rubric signed, the more likely it is that you will get your mathematician of first choice approved.

Requirements for Project:

_____ Idea approved by Mr. Bruening, Rubric signed by student and parent (Thursday, September 4, 2014)

_____ Paper and poster due (Friday, October 3, 2014)

While it seems like there is a lot of time to complete this project, please do not be fooled. Use your time wisely, ask questions!! We will not have much time in class in order to work on this project.

Note: Mr. Bruening reserves the right to have this assignment altered or changed based upon each student's needs.

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	Not Satisfactory	**Needs Improvement**	**Satisfactory**	**Exemplary**
	1 point	2 points	3 points	4 points
Guidelines	Paper meets few of the guidelines as well as not being turned in in a timely manner.	Paper meets some of the guidelines as well as being turned in in a timely manner.	Paper meets most of the guidelines as well as being turned in in a timely manner.	Paper is 2 pages and meets the guidelines as well as being turned in in a timely manner.
Biographical Information	Information not accurate, or paper only includes 0-3 biographical facts.	Information provided is somewhat accurate, or paper only includes 4-6 biographical facts.	Information provided is mostly accurate, or paper only includes 7-9 biographical facts.	Information provided is both detailed and accurate and paper includes 10 biographical facts.
Mathematical Contributions	Information not accurate, or paper only includes 0-1 mathematical contributions.	Information provided is somewhat accurate, or paper only includes 2-3 mathematical contribution	Information provided is mostly accurate, or paper only includes 4 mathematical contribution or does not answer the question how mathematician's contributions apply to me today.	Information provided is both detailed and accurate and paper includes 5 mathematical contributions.
Reference Page	There are no resources listed or no sources can be found based upon the information given by the student.	There is only one resource listed or only one source can be found based upon the information given by the student.	There are two resources listed or only two sources can be found based upon the information given by the student.	There are three resources listed and each source can be easily found based upon the information given by the student.
Poster	Of the 15 combined contributions and biographical data, only 0-5 items are on the poster or the poster is done sloppily	Of the 15 combined contributions and biographical data, only 6-10 items are on the poster or the poster is not done neatly	Of the 15 combined contributions and biographical data, only 11-14 items are on the poster or there is no picture of the mathematician	The poster is done neatly, all 15 combined contributions and biographical data are included, and the poster includes the mathematician's picture

Student Acknowledgement:

By signing this document, I am aware that I am responsible for completing this assignment in an orderly fashion and turning it in either on or before September 25, 2014. I do hereby claim all work I submit as my own or have properly identified other people's ideas. I also hereby acknowledge that I have examined this rubric and understand the point-values assigned for each portion.

Student Signature: _____   Date: _____

I understand the assignment my student will have to complete and can contact Mr. Bruening at (816) 509-4930 if there are any problems that arise.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Famous Mathematicians – While this list is quite an extensive list of mathematicians, it no way encompasses the entire listing of mathematicians that could be considered "famous." If you would rather do your project on another mathematician, please consult Mr. Bruening to get approval.

Archimedes
Pythagoras
Hypatia
Euclid
Fibonacci (Leonardo Pisola Bigollo)
Leonardo da Vinci
Renee Descartes
Pierre de Fermat
Blaise Pascal
Sir Isaac Newton
Gottfried Leibniz
Jacob Bernoulli
Daniel Bernoulli
Leonhard Euler
Maria Agnesi
Joseph-Louis Lagrange
Pierre-Simon Laplace
Augustin-Louis Cauchy
Charles Babbage
Jean Baptiste Joseph Fourier
Johann Carl Friedrich Gauss
Ada Lovelace
George Stokes
Bernhard Riemann
Siméon Poisson
Sofia Kovalevskaya
Henri Poincaré
Peter Dirichlet
David Hilbert
Georg Cantor
Albert Einstein
Emmy Noether
Srinivasa Ramanujan
Mary Louise Cartwright
Grace Hooper
Kurt Gödel
Alan Turing
Alexandre Grothendieck
Andrew Wiles

Note: These are just suggestions. There are **a lot** of other famous mathematicians that you can choose.