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Rubric: Middle School Research Paper

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| Research the approved topic and question. Submit double spaced, 12-point TNR font following MLA guidelines. Include a bibliography citing resources used researching the paper. Paper will be graded on quality of research to support the topic, effective use of information gained through research, credibility of sources, content, grammar and mechanics, and bibliography. |

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| [owered by iRubric](http://www.irubric.com/)Research Paper | | | | | |
|  | **Advanced** **4 pts.** | **Proficient** **3 pts.** | **Developing** **2 pts.** | **Beginning** **1 pts.** |  |
| **Quality of research** | Advanced  --All information relevant to topic --Sufficient information provided to support all elements of topic. --Research in-depth and the beyond the obvious, revealing new insights gained. | Proficient  --Most information relevant to thesis. --Sufficient information provided  --Research of sufficient depth. | Developing  --Source reliability questionable. Omitted information does not interfere with ability of reader to find the source. --Some information relevant to thesis. --Information provided to support some elements of topic --Surface research. | Beginning  --Source reliability questionable. Omitted information does not interfere with ability of reader to find the source. --Some information relevant to thesis. --Information provided to support some elements of topic --Surface research. |  |
| **Content** | Advanced  --Topic interesting and based on appropriate focus question --Support for thesis complex, complete, & in-depth. --Clear and appropriate organization, with effective transitions, introduction, and conclusion. | Proficient  --Topic based on an appropriate question. --Support for thesis sufficient, but lacking in depth or complexity. --Organization, transitions, introduction, and conclusion slightly lacking clarity and/or appropriateness. | Developing  --Topic too broad or narrow and/or a poor topic for research. --Support for thesis barely sufficient, and/or. --Organization, transitions, introduction, and conclusion lacking clarity and/or appropriateness. | Beginning  --Topic too broad or narrow and/or a poor topic for research. --Support for thesis barely sufficient, and/or. --Organization, transitions, introduction, and conclusion lacking clarity and/or appropriateness. |  |
| **Works Cited/Bibliography** | Advanced  --All sources properly cited in both paper and bibliography. | Proficient  --All sources properly cited in both paper and bibliography. | Developing  --Not all sources properly cited in both paper and bibliography. | Beginning  Not all sources properly cited in both paper and bibliography. |  |
| **Grammar and Mechanics** | Advanced  -- Sophisticated and precise word choice. --No spelling errors. --No errors in agreement, pronouns/antecedents or tense. -- No punctuation or capitalization errors. --Met all style and requirements | Proficient  -- Fairly effective word choice. --Few (under 5) spelling, punctuation, or capitalization errors, errors in agreement, pronouns/antecedents or tense. --Met most style requirements | Developing  -- Correct word choice. --Some (5+) spelling, punctuation, or capitalization errors,  or errors in agreement, pronouns/antecedents or tense. -- Failed to meet style requirements | Beginning  -- Correct word choice. --Many (10+) spelling, punctuation, or capitalization errors or errors in agreement, pronouns/antecedents or tense. --Failed to meet style requirements |  |
| **Format** | Advanced  No errors in Format. | Proficient  Few errors in Format. | Developing  5 or fewer errors in Formatting. | Beginning  More than 5 errors in Formatting. |  |

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