



THE TELESCOPE'S TALE

Overview

Book: *War of the Worlds* by H. G. Wells

Grades 9-12

The telescope has helped humans both satisfy and whet their curiosity about outer space. Normally, a biography is about a person. In this interesting twist, students create a biography or autobiography of the telescope. The telescope dates back to the very early 1600s so there are plenty of events to choose from when telling this tale.

Standards

RI.9-12.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly, as well as inferences drawn from the text.
RI.9-12.7	Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums (e.g. a person's life story in both print and multimedia) determining which details are emphasized in each account.
W.9-12.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
W.9-12.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

SL.9-12.2	Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g. visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.
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Objectives

Students will research the development of the telescope.

Students will create a biography or autobiography for the telescope.

Students will select a format to present the information: book, simulated podcast, PowerPoint, graphic novel, or film.

Student will create a biography/autobiography final product using the selected format.

Materials Required

Access to internet

Image of early telescope

Image of modern day telescope

Other materials will vary depending on the presentation format selected by each student

If possible, a telescope

Vocabulary

Biography -A biography, or simply bio, is a detailed description of a person's life. It involves more than just the basic facts like education, work, relationships, and death; it portrays a person's experience of these life events. This is written by a person other than the subject.

Autobiography - An autobiography is a **self-written** account of the life of a person

Procedure

1. If you have a telescope, let students experience using it.
2. Show the image of the early telescope and the modern telescope.
3. Discuss what differences and similarities are evident.

4. Tell students that they are going to tell the tale of the telescope. They will research the information and then tell the facts in either the form of a biography or autobiography.
5. Allow time for research. Tell students they must cite at least 5 different sources for their research.
6. Tell students they must include at least 12 different events in the biography/autobiography.
7. Students may select any format to tell the telescope's tale. It could be a book, film, simulated podcast, PowerPoint, or graphic novel.
8. Have students work in small groups to critique and revise their final products.
9. Allow time for presentation of their Telescope's Tales.

Extensions

1. Students might create a biography/autobiography about satellites, spacesuits, rockets, or other technology that is related to space travel.
2. Invite an astronomer to speak to the class and talk about how telescopes are being used or developed.

Rubric

RUBRIC	(3)	Meets (2)	Partially Meets (1)	Does Not Meet (0)
Research	Student cited 6 or more resources	Student cited 5 resources	Student cited 3-4 resources	Student cited 2 or fewer resources
Content	Content included 13 or more events in the tale of the telescope	Content included 12 events in the tale of the telescope	Content included 8-11 events in the tale of the telescope	Content included 7 or fewer events in the tale of the telescope
Narrative	Narrative is highly developed using effective technique, well-	Narrative uses effective technique, some details with basically structured	Narrative wanders, has few details and poorly	Narrative wanders, no details and sequence is not

	chosen details and well-structured event sequences.	event sequences.	sequenced events	logical
Final Product	The rubric will vary depending on the final product selected by the student.			
Total N/12				

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