

4th Grade Mission Report

The fourth grade mission report is an opportunity for your child to really get into a project and show what he or she can do, given some criteria, but more importantly, given a choice.

My criteria for the mission project are as follows:

- 1) The mission must be clearly identified.
- 2) Certain information must be included about the mission.
 - a) The location of the mission
 - b) Who founded the mission and when
 - c) What major city is near the mission, or if there is no major city nearby, a thoughtful paragraph on why there isn't.
 - d) What the mission was known for.
 - e) The two, (or more) closest missions to it, in all directions. For example, Carmel Mission has the Santa Cruz Mission to the north, the San Juan Bautista Mission to the northeast, and the Soledad Mission to the southeast. I want students to understand that this was a chain of missions, independent but interdependent at the same time.

Now the fun part!

Your child can make a mission. The library has books with very clear instructions about how to make a mission. NO KITS PLEASE!

You can make a movie. You would have to film it at the mission, and your child can act as a tour guide, pointing out interesting features, etc. of the mission. The movie should be between 5-10 minutes long.

Your child can make a really DETAILED diorama of a mission.

Your child can write and act in a play about a mission.

Your child can write a poem or song about a mission, and be ready to perform it.

Your child can paint a mission.

Your child can come up with their own idea and present it for my approval FIRST, and then do it!

Notice that I repeatedly say "Your child." This is a project on which you are invited to help, but NOT do. I am giving almost 8 weeks for this project. I have VERY high expectations and the mission project should reflect the amount of time given, and be a

project that your child will be PROUD to present. This is NOT a last minute, oh, just draw a picture really quickly, and turn it in type of project.

I am sending this home early so you can talk about what your child might want to do. If it is not on this list, make sure to ask, and I will either say yes or no, depending on the idea.

It is hard to make a grading rubric for this as the projects can be so diverse. I will say that an A project should make me go, "Wow!"

A B project should make me think, "Good effort."

A C project would be, "Well, they included the information, but they could have done more."

A D project would be, "Gosh, they could have done so much better. This looks like they did it this week."

A F project is not done or is a scribbly mess.

This is a chance for your child to:

Take responsibility for his or her own learning.

Show off their abilities.

Make something that they are proud of and proud to show off, because whatever the project is, it will be shared.

If you have any questions, please send me a note or call me at school, 649-1744. You can also me at natalieugray@netscape.net

THE DUE DATE IS FEB. 15TH. If the project is late, I will deduct a letter grade. I would expect they would finish it a few days early, to avoid any unforeseen circumstances.

Please sign and return below.

I have read and understand the requirements for this project.

X _____
Student

X _____
Parent