

Sample History Fair Pacing

Junior Division



As you think about pacing the History Fair process throughout your school year, the most important consideration is your project registration due date. You should work backward from this date to allow time not only for your students to complete their projects, but also for you to select which projects will advance from your school to the CMHF regional contests.

The following pacing guides can be used to plan 16-week and 10-week options for teaching History Fair. In both cases, the “weeks” on the plan run Monday-Friday (weekends are excluded). Projects are due (to you) on February 19, and the following week (February 22-26) is allotted for you to grade, judge, and select which projects will advance to the regional contests (see Project Allowances).

The 16-week plan begins shortly after Kickoff and allows multiple weeks for each phase of the project. Main research begins a week before winter break, continuing through the break and for two weeks after students return for a total of five weeks. Students have five more weeks to find their voice and build their projects.

The 12-week plan begins the week of report card pickup (CPS) does not include History Fair work over winter break. The bulk of students’ research is conducted after they return from winter break. Four weeks are given for students to work on their argument and complete their projects.

History Fair Activity	16-week plan	12-week plan
Introduce theme	11/2-11/14 (2 weeks)	11/16-11/20 (1 week)
Select topics	11/16-11/28 (2 weeks)	11/23-12/4 (2 weeks)
Historical question and thesis	11/30-12/11 (2 weeks)	12/7-12/18 (2 weeks) +2 weeks break
Research and Analysis	12/14-1/15 (5 weeks, includes break)	1/4-1/22 (3 weeks)
Argument and Student Voice	1/18-1/29 (2 weeks)	1/25-2/5 (2 weeks)
Building the Project	2/1-2/19 (3 weeks)	2/8-2/19 (2 weeks)
Final projects due	Due 2/19	Due 2/19
School Fair/selections	2/22-2/26 (1 week)	2/22-2/26 (1 week)
Registration due to CMHF	3/1	3/1