

Inquiry Assessment Grades 7 and 8

Power Standard: Inquiry is a key component of the social sciences.

Indicators:

- Formulate probing questions (How? and Why?)
- Identify, collect, examine, analyze, and manage information to construct a well supported answer through an appropriate format with complete source citations.

	Accomplished	Proficient	Amateur	Basic
Research	Identifies all relevant information, locating, examining, and analyzing various resources	Identifies relevant information, locating, examining, and analyzing resources.	Locates and uses resources.	Little evidence of locating and using resources.
Questioning	Initiates high-level inquiry by formulating probing questions.	Initiates inquiry by formulating probing questions.	Initiates limited inquiry by formulating questions.	Little or no evidence of questioning.
Conclusions	Demonstrates thorough understanding of topic, the ability to make numerous connections, and is a powerful, high quality aid to share new learning.	Demonstrates understanding of topic, the ability to make connections, and serves as a meaningful high quality aid to share new learning.	Demonstrates new learning, the ability to make basic connections, and serves as an aid to share new learning.	Demonstrates basic learning
Citations	Creates complete and accurate source citations.	Creates complete source citations.	Creates incomplete source citations.	Little or no evidence of citations.
Use of Time	All time used wisely.	Most time used wisely	Some time used wisely	Little time used wisely

Directions

Step 1

After viewing “America Before Columbus” formulate a probing question about the exchange of plants, animals, diseases, ideas, etc. between the Europe and the Americas.

Your question may focus on a single item and the impact it made, or it could be more general about the long term effects of the columbian exchange on a particular group of people, geographic area, or the environment.

It should also be a goal of your question and research to connect the columbian exchange to today.

Step 2.

Locate and use at least 2 quality resources to take at least 30 notes that contribute to an answer for your question. Create complete source citations for each source you use.

Step 3.

Use your notes to compose a short constructed response answer.

- restate question
- basic answer(thesis)
- support (discuss quotes, examples, etc.)
- concluding sentence

Step 4.

Use the Pic Collage App to create an infographic to more visually share what you learned with others. Remember to respect copyright by using public domain images or citing the work of others. A significant portion of the infographic should be your own original work.

Infographic elements you may choose to include:

- map
- timeline
- data chart or table
- images
- Key vocabulary words
- Key facts or notes