Library of Congress Research Timeline Activity

By Robert Franklin

**Directions**: Students will take the birthday of five members of their family (including themselves) and will research using the Library of Congress website what happened on each of those days in American history. They will then use the timeline generator on readwritethink.org to create a basic timeline of each day in history’s event. Each event must include a title, a picture, a short description of what the event was, and a paragraph about what happened and why it was important. The student will then turn in the timeline to the teacher and save a copy to add to their personal portfolio. This assignment will allow students to do independent research using the Library of Congress website to learn about the events corresponding to their chosen days, and will give them a chance to learn how to use and create a timeline.

**Objectives**:

Students will be able to list events in chronological order and explain their importance.

Students will be able to explain in their own words the significance of the events they are writing about and describe what actually happened.

Students will be able to create a timeline using technology.

**Common core Standards**:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.2: Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.7: Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

**ISTE Standards**:

1. Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.
   1. Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
2. Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
   1. Communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats.
3. Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.
   1. Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.

