



Physical Anthropology: Hominid Project



Subject: Science

Grade Level: 8th – 10th

TEKS:

112.43. Biology
(c) (7A) (7B)

Background Information:

Hominid is a word that is used commonly to describe members of the family Hominidae, which consists of our species, *Homo sapien sapien*, and all of the species on “our” side of the last common ancestor of humans and living apes. Currently the time of the split between humans and apes is believed to be about 10 million years ago (and possibly further back!) but the history of hominids begins much earlier.

Activity:

For the next several class periods you will be researching a specific species of hominid. Your research must include the following key pieces of information about your hominid:

- where it was found
- how it lived
- what it ate
- when it lived
- who first identified it as a species
- why it was named

Just as important, you must share with us why your species of hominid is important. What was different about it, compared to what came before it and what followed it evolutionarily speaking.

This project will be presented to our class and possibly filmed for other students. You need to prepare a poster containing your information and a formal lecture describing your hominid species. Be ready to answer any questions from your fellow anthropologists!

Choose one from the following list:

<i>Ramapithicus</i> sp	<i>Kenyanthropus platyops</i>
<i>Sivapithecus</i> sp	<i>Australopithecus africanus</i>
<i>Oeropithecus</i>	<i>Australopithecus aethiopicus</i>
<i>Australopithecus anamensis</i>	<i>Australopithecus robustus</i>
<i>Australopithecus afarensis</i>	<i>Australopithecus boisei</i>
<i>Australopithecus bahrelghazi</i>	<i>Homo habilis</i>
<i>Kenyanthropus platytops</i>	<i>Homo georgicus</i>
<i>Australopithecus garhi</i>	<i>Homo erectus</i>
<i>Australopithecus africanus</i>	<i>Homo ergaster</i>
<i>The Robust Australopithecines (or</i>	<i>Homo antecessor</i>
<i>Paranthropines)</i>	<i>Homo heidelbergensis</i>
<i>Sahelanthropus tchadensis</i>	<i>Homo rudolfensis</i>
<i>Orrorin tugenensis</i>	<i>Homo neanderthalensis</i>
<i>Ardipithecus ramidus</i>	<i>Homo floresiensis</i>
<i>Australopithecus anamensis</i>	<i>Homo sapien archaic</i>
<i>Australopithecus afarensis</i>	