

# TYPES OF CHEESE RESEARCH PROJECT

<p><b>Focus Lesson: Facts about Cheeses</b></p> <p><b>Materials:</b>          Computer Lab          Research Guidelines Worksheet          Poster Board          Art Supplies          Reflection Paper</p> <p>Refer to NCTE's (National Council for Teachers of English) <a href="http://readwritethink.org">readwritethink.org</a> website for a variety of teaching strategies across grades to help students structure their research and write expository reports. The website provides lesson plans, formats, and demonstrations of ways to take effective notes from nonfiction texts. Students can also write their reports using NCTE's formats online.</p> <p><b>Time:</b>          2 days (40-60 minutes each)          1 day for discussion and research          1 day for poster making and presenting</p>	<p><b>*Common Core Standards:</b>  <b>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.5</b>          Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.</p> <p><b>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.7</b>          Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic.</p> <p><b>CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1</b>          Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on <i>grade 4 topics and texts</i>, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.</p> <p><b>Thinking Skill: Conducting Research</b></p>
<p><b>Objective:</b></p> <p>Students will gather information on a specific topic          Students will collaborate with peers to complete a group project          Students will take notes regarding specific research questions          Students will present their information in a coherent, creative manner          Students will reflect on their own work as well as their peers'</p>	
<p><b>Connection:</b></p> <p>Cheese is one of the main ingredients on a pizza. Does anyone know what type of cheese is usually on a pizza?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- mozzarella is most common</li> <li>- sometimes mixed with others</li> <li>- good because it melts together (and it tastes good!)</li> </ul>	

### **Explicit Instruction:**

Cheese is used and eaten in many other dishes. What other things can you think of that have cheese in them?

- invite students to share their ideas
- discuss how all different types of cheese are used as ingredients in what the students said

How many different types of cheese can we think of?

Split students into groups of 2 or 3 depending on class size

Have students choose a type of cheese from a list (research cheeses beforehand to make sure there's information on it somewhere)

- Students will be responsible for knowing the name of the cheese, where it originally comes from, what it's made out of, any special techniques used to make it, foods it's typically eaten with/in, what it tastes like, and what it looks like

### **Guided Practice:**

Schedule a research day in the library/computer lab.

Pass out worksheets identifying everything meant to be researched (a sample 2-column notes page is attached).

### **Independent Practice:**

Turn students loose to research independently

Recognize that some groups may not be able to find answers to every question--encourage them to search thoroughly but not stress about it

- everyone should do their own research (not in their pre-assigned groups)

Have groups reconvene to discuss the information they found. It should all be very similar amongst group members.

Determine whether another research day will be necessary based on overall class completeness.

Students are now responsible for making informational posters depicting their chosen cheese.

- only guidelines are that it includes all of the pre-outlined information and is visually pleasing
- provide students with as many art supplies as possible

### Reflection – Group Share:

Give students ample time to collaborate and complete their posters.

Once finished, set up posters around the room.

Invite students on a poster walk.

- while walking around the room, students should identify one new type of cheese they'd be willing to try, two interesting facts they learned from other people's posters, and which poster was their favorite and why
- this should be submitted to the teacher at the end of the session

### Teacher Note:

## TYPES OF CHEESE RESEARCH PROJECT: NOTES

<b>QUESTION:</b>	<b>ANSWER:</b>
What is the type of cheese?	
Where does it come from?	
What is it made out of?	
What foods are eaten with it?	
What does it look like?	
Is there any other specific or special information about this type of cheese?	