Epidemic Research Project

The task: You and your team from the World Health Organization are investigating a particular epidemic in history to educate the public about how it happened and how to prevent a future outbreak. The epidemic you are researching is __________________________.

You must research and communicate:

PART A: the epidemic

Basic pathogen information:

☐ The scientific name for the pathogen causing the infection and any other common names
☐ What type of microorganism is it? (e.g. bacteria, virus, fungus, protozoa, etc.)
☐ Picture or drawing of the microorganism
☐ Host of the microorganism
  o What plants/animals are affected by the microorganism? Humans, mosquitoes, … ?

Epidemic in History:

☐ Time of a significant outbreak of the disease
☐ Geographic range of the outbreak
  o Where did this happen? Continent, country, city... describe how far it spread.
☐ Number of people affected and fatalities (death toll) from the outbreak
☐ Symptoms of the disease in humans
  o List all possible effects on the body
  o What parts of the body does it affect? Is there a specific cell type infected?
  o Include a picture/drawing of a recognizable symptom
☐ How is the disease transmitted?
☐ How was/is the disease treated? (if possible, discuss historical and modern treatments)
☐ Prevention: how can we stop the spread of the disease? Vaccines? Hygiene? Genetic modifications?
☐ Any other additional interesting facts about your epidemic or microorganism!

You can choose any type of product that appeals to your team: poster, video, powerpoint, essay, comic book, newspaper article, etc. If you choose a powerpoint (or similar) you will present it to the class. Check with your teacher to confirm your product choice and record it on our topic sign up page.
PART B: the research

The final (and very important) part of the project is the reference list. You will document the sources you used in a properly formatted APA reference list. You must have a minimum of three (non-Wikipedia) sources. Depending on your product, you may submit this a separate paper. As well as providing this list, be sure that everything in your product is your own words.

Consider the reliability of your sources: why would this be a trustworthy place to find information? You will complete a page evaluating the quality and potential biases in your sources. Complete the chart for three of your sources.

Some helpful sources:
WHO fact sheets: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/en/
CDC (choose A-Z index and look for your disease): http://www.cdc.gov/
Encyclopedia of Life (search for your disease): http://eol.org/

In order to be sure that everyone can continue to work on the project if someone is absent, it is good practice to exchange contact information. Share your work and links to sources together.

My team’s contact information:
Partner 1: __________________________________ email: __________________________________________
Partner 2: __________________________________ email: ______________________

Be sure everyone has a copy of this list! Start a group email! Write it in your planner!

Rubric:

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<th>Incomplete</th>
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<tr>
<td>Applying and Innovating</td>
<td>Did not cooperate as a group to create a product</td>
<td>Limited group cooperation</td>
<td>Some group cooperation</td>
<td>A high degree of group cooperation noted</td>
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<td>Learning from class was not transferred to the project</td>
<td>Limited use of class content to explain new material</td>
<td>Some use of class content to explain new material</td>
<td>Applied class content to explain new material with a high degree of effectiveness</td>
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<td>Stated facts and class content</td>
<td>Outlined and sometimes described content</td>
<td>Explained content</td>
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<td>Communicating</td>
<td>Did not meet minimal expectations for communicating ideas and findings</td>
<td>Limited communication of ideas and findings</td>
<td>Some communication of ideas and findings</td>
<td>Ideas and findings were communicated with a high degree of effectiveness</td>
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<td>Scientific language was not used</td>
<td>Scientific language was used in a limited manner</td>
<td>Some scientific language was used</td>
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<td>Evaluating</td>
<td>Did not provide any evidence of sources or references were not able to be traced</td>
<td>References were given for information</td>
<td>Some of the sources had proper APA references</td>
<td>All sources were properly APA referenced</td>
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<td>Little to no reflection on reliability of sources</td>
<td>A limited understanding of the quality and bias in secondary sources is shown</td>
<td>Some understanding of the quality and bias in secondary sources is shown</td>
<td>A high degree of understanding of the quality and bias in secondary sources is shown</td>
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