Kristin Wright – For the Love of Reading  
Theme: Heroes  
Bibliography ideas for 4th – 9th grades  
Lessons & activities and projects for 4th – 9th graders

Monday:

Read one or two books on a particular hero that would interest your grade level. I picked these two:

*Listen To the Wind*, by Greg Mortenson & Susan L. Roth

*Moses – When Harriet Tubman Let Her People to Freedom*, by Carole Boston Weatherford

Short discussion on why these 2 people are special.

Discussion in groups of 3-5 students (designed for grades 5-12) Adjust questions and assignments based on age and abilities)

- What makes a hero to you?
- What does it take to make a difference?
- What are some specific characteristics of a hero?
- Who are some of your heroes?
- Do you need to be famous to be a hero?
- Do you have to save lives to be a hero?
- What are some different types of heroes? (inventors & innovators, politicians, sports, business & law, music & art, leaders of social change, new frontiers…)

Tuesday:

Each group member must select 4 and research the basic information on these facts:

- Name of the hero
- Year of birth & death
- Facts that made them considered a hero (major achievements)

Make your selections from the list below: (you may want to do someone not on the list, like authors, scientists, inventors, artists, composers, poets, historical people, or someone not famous, but has done something special that has influenced others for good.) You may use the internet, selected books, library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Adams</th>
<th>Amelia Earhart</th>
<th>Eleanor Roosevelt</th>
<th>Theodore Roosevelt</th>
<th>Jim Thorpe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Franklin</td>
<td>Albert Einstein</td>
<td>Bill Gates</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>Benjamin Banneker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Graham Bell</td>
<td>Mary McLeod Bethune</td>
<td>Sacajawea</td>
<td>Jonas Salk</td>
<td>Marie Curie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Keller</td>
<td>Cesar Chavez</td>
<td>Frederick Douglas</td>
<td>Thomas Edison</td>
<td>Harriet Tubman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gandhi</td>
<td>Mother Teresa</td>
<td>Wright Brothers</td>
<td>Henry Ford</td>
<td>Nelson Mandela</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr.</td>
<td>Susan B. Anthony</td>
<td>Franklin D. Roosevelt</td>
<td>Rosa Parks</td>
<td>Walt Disney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sojourner Truth</td>
<td>Florence Nightingale</td>
<td>Neil Armstrong</td>
<td>Jane Goodall</td>
<td>Chief Seattle</td>
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Begin your research in pairs, small groups or independently. Include the following information:

- Birth/Death dates and places
- Childhood items of interest
- Education, other experiences or jobs
• Interesting facts or timelines
• Personality Traits
• Struggles
• Special contribution to the world

**Wednesday:**

How do you want to represent your hero and what you have learned? (age appropriate)

Options: (you may have one of your own)
- Digital story
- Power Point
- Video
- Artistic representation (sculpture, painting, mural, bulletin board, poster, diorama, graphic novel, song, poem, story, dramatization, play, skit....or your own idea)

**Thursday & Friday:**

Work on your project

**Monday or day when projects are complete:**

Presentation day/s

**Other great book possibilities:**

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<tr>
<td>Tales of Famous Heroes, by Peter &amp; Connie Roop</td>
<td>Boxes for Katje, by Candice Flemming</td>
<td>The Library, by Sarah Stewart</td>
<td>Nelson Mandela: A Photographic Story of a Life, by Brown &amp; Hort</td>
<td>What Makes the Light Bright, Mr. Edison, by Melvin &amp; Gilda Berger</td>
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<tr>
<td>One Thousand Tracings By Lita Judge</td>
<td>Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen by Michelle McCann</td>
<td>The Boy on Fairfield Street (Dr. Seuss) by Kathleen Krull</td>
<td>Jackie Robinson, by Stephanie McPherson</td>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark: A Prairie Dog for the President, by Shirley Redmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (parts of his speeches) no author</td>
<td>Crazy Horse: We the People, by J. Rothaus</td>
<td>Sojourner Truth: Abolitionist, Suffragist, Preacher, by Norma Lutz</td>
<td>Cesar Chavez: A Photo-Illustrated Biography, by Lucile Davis</td>
<td>Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom, by Carole Weatherford</td>
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