

National History Day in Ohio 2008-2009 The Individual in History: Actions and Legacies

Notes on using this list: The suggested topics and individuals on this list have had numerous impacts on history. Students are encouraged to conduct preliminary research and determine what aspect of the person or event he or she would like to focus on as a narrow History Day topic. Many of the suggested topics focus on one person but remember to look at the whole picture concerning what that individual did to impact history from a community, state, national or international level. What did this individual do to effect or change those around him or her? While recent topics may seem appealing, stay away from topics that are less than 20 years old. It takes time to understand the impact an individual or organization of people will have on history. Remember to talk to local librarians, historians, archivists and curators, they may be able to help identify local topics with great local resources. Be creative! A History Day project should be more than biography; it should look at how an individual effects or impacts a part of history. The "years" column refers to the time period the individual or group impacted history. "Preliminary Research Information" suggests a starting point for research.

Topic	Year(s)	Comments	Preliminary Research Information
Ohio Presidents			
William Henry Harrison	1773-1841	Prior to serving as president, William Henry Harrison served as the governor to the Northwest Territory and also had an honorable military career. As President he served the shortest term in history dying from pneumonia one month after taking office.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Ulysses S. Grant	1822-1885	Most famous for his military leadership during the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant was the first person to be named General of the Army since President George Washington. Grant served two terms as president.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix
Rutherford B. Hayes	1822-1893	Rutherford B. Hayes began his political much like Ulysses Grant by moving his way up through military rankings during the Civil War. Hayes resigned from his military service in 1865 to take a seat in congress supporting Republican Party goals for Reconstruction and helping to develop the Library of Congress. Hayes served a short term in the House of Representatives and then took the position of Ohio Governor in 1867. Hayes was elected president in 1876 by one electoral vote.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
James A. Garfield	1831-1881	After receiving little schooling as a child, James A. Garfield sought a college education beginning in 1849. His political career began as a Republican member of the Ohio Senate in 1859. Garfield was elected president in 1880 and only served 4 months when he was assassinated in Buffalo, NY.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Benjamin Harrison	1833-1901	Benjamin Harrison was an attorney and also served as a member of the Union Army after the start of the Civil War. Harrison won the Republican party nomination and the presidency in 1888. Although he was re-nominated to run for the presidency in 1892, he lost to Grover Cleveland due to growing economic uncertainty. After completing his term as president, Harrison retired to Indiana and continued to practice law until his death in 1901.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory

William McKinley	1843-1901	Like most of his Ohio presidential predecessors, William McKinley also served in the Union Army following the outbreak of the Civil War. McKinley's first elected office was that of the Stark County Prosecutor followed by his election to the House of Representatives. McKinley won the 1891 election for governor by 21,000 votes. In 1896 McKinley won the office of the president by 600,000 votes. McKinley Began his second term in celebration of the Spanish-American War victory. McKinley became the second Ohio president to be assassinated.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
William H. Taft	1857-1930	Taft first entered politics in 1881, when he became the assistant prosecutor of Hamilton County. He continued to practice law in Cincinnati until 1887, when he was appointed as a judge on the Cincinnati Superior Court. Three years later, Taft became solicitor general of the United States . In 1892, Taft was appointed as a judge on the Sixth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. At the same time, he taught law and served as dean of the University of Cincinnati Law School. President Theodore Roosevelt appointed Taft to be his secretary of war in 1904. Taft was elected president in 1908 after Roosevelt had named him his most likely successor. He later became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the only former president to do so.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Warren G. Harding	1865-1923	Harding embarked on his political career in 1898, winning election to the Ohio legislature. In 1903, he became the state's lieutenant governor. In 1914, following an unsuccessful campaign for Ohio governor's seat, Harding won election to the United States Senate. He won the presidential election of 1920 with sixty-one percent of the popular vote. Harding was the first sitting-senator in American history to win election to the presidency.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Other Government/Political Related Topics			
National Woman's Party	Late 19th Century- Today	In Ohio, branches of the National Women's Party were instrumental in defeating the passage of the Dunn Bill, which would have prohibited state government from employing married women.. Its members, along with the League of Women Voters and the Ohio Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, were vocal in their opposition to the proposed legislation.	Ohio History Central
Samuel P. Chase	1830's-1870	Samuel P. Chase began his long political career in Cincinnati as a lawyer, defending an anti-slavery newspaper editor and becoming involved with the abolition movement in the Free Soil party. He went on to be on city council, governor of Ohio, U.S. Senator, Secretary of the Treasury under Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War, and finally the sixth Chief Justice of the United States Supreme court. He had an unsuccessful bid for the White House.	Ohio History Central

Ohio's Path to Statehood	1803	Ohio's path to statehood was full of individual's representing differing viewpoints. Governor of the Northwest Territory, Arthur St. Clair opposed Ohio's statehood, while Thomas Worthington worked to make Ohio a state, even riding to Washington D.C. to see that it happened. When Thomas Jefferson passed the enabling act for Ohio, St. Clair openly criticized the president and was ultimately removed from his post. In 1803, Ohio became a state. Several individuals impacted this course of events. A History Day project could focus on one or several of these opposing individuals' roles.	Ohio Memory
Benjamin Wade	1835-1869	As a state Senator starting in 1837, Benjamin Wade was a strong supporter of abolition and worked to repeal Ohio's Black Codes. Wade became a U.S. Senator in 1851 and was a Radical Republican. The south viewed him as one of their biggest opponents. After the Civil War, he cosponsored the Wade-Davis bill that required half of land owning southern men to take an oath of loyalty to the United States. He opposed Andrew Johnson's leniency towards the south. Had Johnson been removed from office after impeachment, Wade would have become president as President Pro Temp of the Senate.	Ohio History Central
Carl B. Stokes	1952-1992	Carl Stokes grew up in Outhwaite Homes, Cleveland's first federally-funded housing project. He joined hi brother, Louis and started a law firm, Stokes, Stokes, Character, and Terry, in 1962. Carl Stokes was elected the first African American Democrat in the Ohio House. He later became mayor of Cleveland. During his time as mayor, Cleveland experience tumultuous race riots. Stokes opened up political positions to African Americans and women, diversifying the political scene in Cleveland.	The African American Registry
Louis Stoke	1952-1999	Louis Stokes served in the Ohio House from 1968-1999, serving as an influential Democrat. Stokes worked to gain federal funding to help Cleveland's crumbling inner city.	Ohio History Central
William Walker	1932-1981	William Walker edited and published the Cleveland Call and Post, a prominent African American newspaper. In 1963, he became the first African American cabinet member in Ohio under Governor Rhodes.	Ohio History Central
Edwin M. Stanton	1849-1869	Born in Steubenville and a graduate of Kenyon College, Edwin Stanton served as Secretary of War under Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War.	Ohio Memory, Ohio History Central
Rufus Putnam	1738-1824	Rufus Putnam rose to prominence as a Revolutionary War officer and founder of the Ohio Company. As superintendent of the company, Putnam oversaw the construction of the stockade Campus Martius and laid out a plan for the town of Marietta. He served as a member of the Ohio Territorial Legislature in 1801, a representative from Washington County at the first Ohio constitutional convention, and a trustee of Ohio University.	Ohio Memory, Ohio History Central
Samuel Cox	1824-1889	Samuel S. Cox was a prominent nineteenth century Ohio journalist and political leader.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix

African American History			
Abolitionists	1804-1859	Many Ohioans participated in the abolitionist movement. As in other parts of the United States, Quakers were the early leaders of the movement. While slavery was illegal in Ohio, the United States Constitution and the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 permitted slave owners to reclaim their runaway slaves, even if the African Americans now resided in a free state. In addition, Ohio passed a set of Black Codes, limiting the abilities of African Americans to live freely in Ohio. To gain complete freedom, runaway slaves had to leave the United States. As a result, Underground Railroad stops were created in Ohio and other free states by abolitionists, providing runaway slaves with safe passage all of the way to Canada.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory-Letters on American Slavery
Ohio Anti-Slavery Society	1835-1859	Abolitionists established the Ohio Anti-Slavery Society in Zanesville at a meeting held in April 1835. Among the organization's founders were prominent abolitionists like Asa Mahan, John Rankin, Theodore Dwight Weld, and Charles Finney. Many of these men were affiliated with Oberlin College. Other organizers of the society were Quakers from the area near Mount Pleasant, Ohio. The people at this meeting based their organization on the American Anti-Slavery Society, which had been founded in 1833. The Ohio Anti-Slavery Society employed lecturers to travel across the state. They hoped the speakers would convince Ohioans to join the abolitionist movement. The group also used James Birney's newspaper, <i>The Philanthropist</i> , to advance their cause.	Ohio History Central
Richard Allen	1760-1831	Richard Allen was the principal founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Born a slave, Allen purchased his freedom from his master in 1785. Allen's African Methodist Episcopal Church had a major impact on Ohio. During the 1800s, many African Americans in Ohio found comfort and religious fulfillment in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. White Methodists established Wilberforce College in Ohio in 1856. During the 1860s, the African Methodist Episcopal Church acquired Wilberforce and opened its doors to African Americans. It was the first institution of higher education in the United States established specifically for African-American students.	Ohio History Central
Elsie Austin	1908-2004	Elsie Austin was an attorney and the first African American woman to receive a law degree from the University of Cincinnati.	Ohio History Central
Asa Bushnell	1834-1904	As a key endorser of the National Anti-Mob and Lynch Law Association, Governor Asa Bushnell helped to ensure a trial by jury for African Americans through petitioning Congress and the states to enact laws against lynching.	Ohio Memory

Paul Laurence Dunbar	1872-1906	Paul Laurence Dunbar was an important American poet. His parents were former slaves. Like many African-Americans in Ohio at this time, his family struggled financially. In high school, Dunbar was a friend of Orville and Wilbur Wright. The Wright brothers helped Dunbar build a bicycle for himself. The three men also published a newspaper together for a brief time. Dunbar served on the school's debate team, as editor of the student newspaper, and as president of the academic literary society.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix
John P. Parker	1827-1900	John Parker was an active participant in the Underground Railroad in Ohio and helped runaway slaves escape to freedom in the years before the American Civil War. At the age of 18, he purchased his own freedom and in 1850, Parker settled in Ripley, Ohio, along the Ohio River where he opened his own iron foundry business. Parker commonly traveled across the Ohio River and helped fugitive slaves from Kentucky escape to the North through John Rankin, another abolitionist who resided in Ripley. During the American Civil War, Parker served as a recruiter for the 27th Regiment, U.S. Colored Troops.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Asa Mahan	1800-1889	Asa Mahan was an educator, abolitionist and the first President of Oberlin College. Mahan agreed to take the position as Oberlin College's first president only after John Shipherd, the college's founder agreed to allow the students and faculty to enjoy freedom of speech and admit African-American students.	Ohio History Central
John Brown	1800-1859	John Brown's obsession with ending slavery eventually led him to violence at the Raid on Harper's Ferry and his eventual death. A federal arsenal was in the town, and Brown hoped to capture the buildings and the weapons stored inside of them. He then intended to distribute the guns and ammunition to slaves in the region. He hoped to create an army of African Americans that would march through the South and force slave-owners to release their slaves. Brown and his men succeeded in capturing the arsenal, but local residents surrounded the buildings, trapping the abolitionists inside. A detachment of United States Marines arrived and stormed the arsenal on October 18, capturing seven men, including Brown. The state of Virginia charged Brown with treason and he was hanged on December 2, 1859.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Charles Langston	1858	Charles Langston was one of the many famous Oberlin Rescuers that were tried as a group for rescuing escaped slave, John Prince, who had been captured by a group of Kentuckians under the auspices of the Fugitive Slave Act. Langston spoke out against slavery, inequality and the Fugitive Slave Act during his trial. Because the size of the tried group, this incident received a lot of press coverage around the state and the country.	The Oberlin- Wellington Rescue: http://www.oberlin.edu/external/EOG/Oberlin-Wellington_Rescue/rescuemain2.htm

John Rankin	1793-1886	John Rankin was a Presbyterian minister and a prominent member of the Underground Railroad network that assisted runaway before the Civil War. In 1818, Rankin formed an anti-slavery society in Carlisle, Kentucky. Slavery was legal in Kentucky and Rankin was criticized for his views. He eventually moved across the river to Ripley, Ohio. While many Ohioans opposed the ending of slavery, the people of the state were generally more receptive to abolitionists than their neighbors in Kentucky.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
James Preston Poindexter	1804-1859	James Poindexter was an abolitionist, pastor and politician. Poindexter served as pastor of Second Baptist Church; assisted escaping slaves to travel through Columbus; founded the Colored Soldiers Relief Society during the Civil War and served in political positions at the state and municipal level.	Ohio Pix
Frederick McKinley Jones	1935-1961	Frederick McKinley Jones was an inventor who held several patents. In 1935, he invented the refrigerated truck, which dramatically changed the ability to move fresh goods long distances. This technology was quickly altered for use on ships and railroads. Jones also invented a projector for movies with sound.	Ohio History Central; U.S. Patent Office
Jason Bull	1793-1861	Jason Bull kept a station on the Underground Railroad in Clintonville, Franklin County, Ohio.	Columbus Historical Society
Levi Coffin	1874-1877	Nicknamed by his friends the "president of the Underground Railroad" for his active involvement in the movement. A Quaker, Coffin moved in Cincinnati in 1847 and helped around 3000 slaves to freedom in Canada. He also opened an orphanage for African American children and pressured the government to start the Freedman's Bureau after the Civil War.	Ohio History Central
Arts and Entertainment		Many Ohioans have excelled in the arts and in the entertainment industry. During the nineteenth century, some of the state's artists, composers, and musicians gained world recognition for their achievements. Ohioans continued to excel during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries in both traditional and new forms of arts and entertainment. Thousands of Ohioans have performed in the radio, television, and movie industries, bringing further acclaim to the state. A few are listed below.	Ohio History Central
Milton Caniff	1930-1950	Ohio Cartoonist that became famous for strips like Terry and the Pirates and Steve Canyon in the 1940's and 1950's. He is credited with changing the way comic strips were portrayed and even for influencing cinematography in film.	OSU Cartoon Research Library
Alan Freed	1921-1965	In 1951, Freed began hosting a rhythm and blues program on WJW radio in Cleveland, using the nickname "Moon Dog." His program soon had a large popular following. Freed referred to the music he played as "rock & roll" for the first time. At first, much of his audience was African-American. Soon many other Americans began listening to this new style of music. Freed is credited with hosting the first live rock & roll concert in 1952.	Ohio History Central

Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster	1930's-	Siegel and Shuster are the creators of the Superman comic. Siegel developed the storylines, while Shuster drew the comic. The two creators initially developed Superman as a villain during the 1930s, but they later made him a superhero. In 1936, the partners unsuccessfully attempted to make Superman into a daily comic strip. After this failure, the two men found employment with DC-National Comics (present-day DC Comics). In 1939, DC Comics agreed to publish Superman as a storyline in <i>Action Comics</i> . Superman appeared in the very first issue of this comic. DC Comics developed a separate Superman comic and then made the creators sign away their rights to Superman in 1939, but created a lasting legacy with their iconic character.	Ohio History Central
Benjamin Hanby	1833-1867	Benjamin Hanby was a minister, abolitionist and American musician in mid-nineteenth century Ohio.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix
Roy Lichtenstein	1951-1997	Roy Lichtenstein was a famous artist, known for his pop art and abstract impressionism. He attended and taught at The Ohio State University.	The Roy Lichtenstein Foundation
Zane Grey	1910-1939	From Zanesville, Zane Grey penned over 90 novels. He was known for his western style and also wrote short stories and stories for children.	Ohio History Central, Zane Grey's West Society
Jacquelyn Mayer	1962-	From Sandusky, Jackie Mayer was crowned Miss Ohio in 1962 and became Miss American in 1963. In 1970, at age 28, Mayer suffered from a stroke and had to teach herself how to speak and other basic motor skills. She remains an advocate for stroke awareness helping stroke victims and their families.	www.jackiemayer.com
Janurius MacGahan	1870-1878	Born in New Lexington, Ohi, Janurius MacGahan was an American journalist and war correspondent working for the <i>New York Herald</i> and the <i>London Daily News</i> . His articles describing the massacre of Bulgarian civilians by Turkish soldiers in 1876 created public outrage in Europe, and were a major factor in preventing Britain from supporting Turkey in the Russian-Turkish War of 1877-78, which led to Bulgaria gaining independence from the Ottoman Empire.	themacgahanfoundation.netfirms.com
Women's History			
Mary Ann Campana	1929-1945	In 1933, Campana set a world's record for remaining airborne the longest in a light airplane. She remained airborne for almost twelve and a half continuous hours, demonstrating that women could be skilled pilots. While Campana's feat seems like a minor event in women's and Ohio's history, such occurrences illustrate the various attempts women made to gain equality with men during the first part of the twentieth century.	Ohio History Central, Remarkable Ohio
Mary Adelaide	1874-1964	Mother Mary Adelaide was the founder of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania. The sisters of this new order dedicated themselves to charity and educational activities in northwestern Ohio and established Lourdes College.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory

Francis Dana Gage	1808-1868	Francis Dana Gage's father migrated to Marietta in 1788 with Rufus Putnam's first group of settlers to the Northwest Territory. Gage was involved in the temperance, abolition, and women's rights movements, and in 1851, presided over the Women's Rights Convention in Akron. She was one of the 19th Centuries most famous women lecturers and continued to work for the end of slavery, even when her life was endangered.	Links to the Past: http://henryburke1010.tripod.com/id32.html
Victoria Woodhull	1838-1927	In 1868, Victoria Woodhull and her sister, Tennessee Claflin, moved to New York City. Upon their arrival, they continued to tell fortunes and sell medicines. One of their customers was Cornelius Vanderbilt, one of the wealthiest citizens in the United States. Vanderbilt provided the two sisters capital to start Woodhull, Claflin and Company, a stockbrokerage firm. The company quickly prospered and allowed the two women to begin their own magazine, <i>Woodhull and Claflin's Weekly</i> . This journal called for equal rights for women with men. Thanks to Woodhull and Claflin's Weekly, Woodhull emerged as a prominent spokesperson for the women's rights movement during the 1870s. In 1872, Woodhull sought election as President of the United States. Her running mate was noted-abolitionist Frederick Douglass.	Ohio Memory, victoriawoodhull.com
Gloria Steinem	1960-	Gloria Steinem began her journalistic career with <i>Help!</i> magazine in 1960. She became well-known as an advocate for women and was a founding editor of <i>New York Magazine</i> . Steinem co-founded the National Women's Political Caucus, the Women's Action Alliance, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, and <i>Ms.</i> magazine. She continues to serve as an editor of <i>Ms.</i> magazine in addition to authoring several books.	National Women's Hall of Fame, Ohio History Central
Florence Allen	1910-1959	During the 1910's and 20's, Florence Allen opened a law firm in Cleveland, unusual for women at the time. Allen was elected to judge after the passage of the nineteenth of amendment and in 1922, she won a seat on the Ohio Supreme Court. She was the first woman in any state to be on a Supreme Court. FDR later appointed her as the first woman federal judge.	Ohio History Central
Annie Oakely	1885-1901	Phoebe Anne Mozee became known for her marksmanship and met her husband while beating him in a shooting contest. They later join Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show. Her ability made her world famous; reportedly the first woman "superstar."	Ohio Memory, Ohio History Central
Ohio's First Ladies		While history tends to focus on the role of president, the First Lady is an important part of the political equation. From campaigning to taking on issues and acting as a representative of the president, the first lady has a very visible role. What is the impact of one of Ohio's First Ladies? How has the role of First Lady had significance in history?	National First Ladies Library

Mary Ann "Mother" Bickerdyke	1861-1886	Original from Knox County, Mary Ann Bickerdyke worked as the chief nursing aid under Ulysses S Grant during the Civil War. She was known to passionately work for "her boys," making sure soldier received proper care. By the end of the war, with the help of the U.S. Sanitary Commission, Mother Bickerdyke had built 300 hospitals and aided the wounded on 19 battlefields including the Battle of Shiloh and Sherman's March to the Sea.	Ohio History Central
Medical Milestones			
William Awl	1799-1876	Awl sought to improve medical care for the imprisoned, the blind, and the mentally ill. In 1833, the Ohio legislature appointed Awl as the physician of the Ohio Penitentiary. Two years later, Awl helped organize the Ohio Medical Association. This organization lobbied the Ohio legislature to establish a state hospital for the mentally ill and a school for the blind.	Ohio History Central
Albert Sabin	1939-1969	Working at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Albert Sabin wanted to better understand the polio virus. In 1957, Sabin created a live vaccine that would be more effective than the Salk vaccination discovered a few years earlier. In 1960, Sabin's vaccine was distributed in the United States, eradicating polio.	Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Ohio History Central
Arthur G. James	1940's-1980's	Since the late 1940s, Dr. Arthur G. James, a professor at The Ohio State University, dreamed of establishing a cancer hospital in Columbus, Ohio. There were no hospitals specializing in cancer treatment between the states of New York and Texas. James pursued this goal for the next forty years before making it a reality in 1984, when The Ohio State University construct the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Research Institute.	Ohio History Central
Native Americans			
Chief Pontiac	ca.1720-1769	Chief Pontiac was a chief of the Ottawa's. He is best known for his leadership during Pontiac's Rebellion from 1763 to the fall of 1764.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix
Tecumseh	1768-1813	Tecumseh (Shooting Star) was born in 1768, probably at Old Piqua, along the Mad River in Ohio. He was a Shawnee Indian and eventually became one of their greatest leaders. He was victorious against Arthur St. Clair in 1791 and was admired for his call to violent resistance of white settlement. After being defeated by Anthony Wayne at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, he created a confederacy of Appalachian tribes. His confederacy later weakened and joined the British in the War of 1812 where he was killed in battle.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix

Tenskwatawa, the Prophet		Brother of Tecumseh, Tenskwatawa had a vision that the Master of Life told him that the Shawnee must give up white customs and products and would be rewarded by driving the white men out of their territory. His following grew and he formed a village for his followers in Greenville. They later moved to Indiana and were driven out of Prophetstown by the American Army. After his brother's death, Tenskwatawa lost prominence and ended his life on a Shawnee reservation in Kansas.	
Blue Jacket	ca.1740's-ca. 1810	Blue Jacket was a leader of the Shawnee Indians. His Native American name was Weyapiersenwah (also spelled Wehyehpiherhsehnwah). Historians know very little of his early years. In 1795, the Shawnees, represented by Blue Jacket, signed the Treaty of Greenville.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Little Turtle	ca.1752-1812	Little Turtle was a war leader of the Miami Indians. Little is known of his life before the 1790s, although he did help the British in the American Revolution. After the signing of the Treaty of Greenville, he urged his fellow natives to keep the peace.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Pix
Anthony Wayne	1775-1795	After St. Clair's defeat by the Native American in Ohio in November 1791, President George Washington sent Wayne to the Ohio Country to defeat them. Wayne's army defeated Tecumseh's confederation of Native American tribes at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794, and the following summer the tribes met at Greenville to discuss Wayne's terms for peace.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
William Crawford	1732-1782	Crawford fought in the French and Indian War, participating in both General Edward Braddock's campaign in 1755 and the capture of Fort Duquesne in 1758. He also served in Pontiac's Rebellion. Crawford and his men fought off the Native American and their British allies at the Battles of the Sandusky and Olentangy on June 4-6, 1782, but the following day the American forces were divided and Crawford and a number of his men were captured. In revenge for the Gnadenhutten Massacre, the natives tortured Crawford before burning him at the stake.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Religious Groups			
Joseph Bimeler	1817-1898	Zoar is a small community in Tuscarawas County founded by a group of German separatists in 1817. These separatists, who soon became known as Zoarites, were originally from an area of Germany known as Wurttemberg. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, they had separated from the official German religion, the Lutheran Church. Separatists faced severe persecution in Wurttemberg, including confiscation of their properties and imprisonment. The group's leader, Joseph Bimeler (or sometimes spelled Joseph Bäumeler), decided to bring the separatists to the United States.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory

Society of Friends/Quakers	1650-1803	The Society of Friends, more commonly known as the Quakers, came to Ohio in the late 1700s and the early 1800s. The first Quaker to arrive in Ohio was George Harlan in 1795. By 1800, approximately eight hundred Quaker families were living in Ohio. The Friends originally settled in eastern and southern Ohio and established Mt. Pleasant, Alliance, Salem, Lisbon, and several other communities in the state. In Mt. Pleasant the Friends built a meeting house that could hold approximately two thousand people. The Quakers played a major role in nineteenth-century reform efforts including the temperance, women's rights, and abolition movements.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Space Exploration			
Neil Armstrong	1946-1975	Prior to becoming famous as an astronaut and the first man to walk on the moon; Neil Armstrong earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Purdue University in 1955. This background as well as some military experience prepared him to work for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), the predecessor to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). While with NACA, Armstrong worked at the Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio. He contributed to NASA's flight research as a test pilot, flying a number of different aircraft including the high-speed X-15.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
John Glenn	1921-	In 1958, Glenn became one of seven original astronauts chosen by the National Air and Space Administration for the first American space missions. Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth on February 20, 1962. The mission was known as Friendship 7. In just under five hours, Glenn orbited the Earth three times. The Friendship 7 mission made Glenn a household name, not only in the United States but also in many other parts of the world. John Glenn later became a U.S. Senator from Ohio and the oldest man to go into space.	John and Annie Glenn Historic Site
Judith Resnick	1978-1986	Judith Resnick was the second woman to go into space. She helped develop software for NASA and rode on the maiden voyage of Discovery. In 1986, Resnick was on the Challenger when it exploded.	Ohio History Central
Agriculture			
J.M. Smucker	1897-	Originally from the fruit of Johnny Appleseed's trees, Orrville, Ohio resident Jerome Monroe Smucker first pressed cider at a mill he opened in 1897. Later, he also prepared apple butter, which he sold from the back of a horse-drawn wagon. Each crock bore a hand-signed seal as his personal guarantee of quality.	Smuckers Website http://www.smuckers.com/fc/history/default.asp?

Albert Belmont Graham	1902-	The 4-H Club originated in 1902, in Clark County, Ohio. That year, Albert Belmont Graham began a program for local farming youths to better prepare them for their lives as farmers. In 1914, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) established its Cooperative Extension Service, which incorporated clubs, like the one that Graham created.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
John Chapman	1802-1840's	Also known as Johnny Appleseed, John Chapman moved through Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, planting apple nurseries. He was a pacifist and vegetarian and went on to own over 1200 acres of land. His nurseries are credited for feeding many of Ohio's earliest white settlers. More than his actions, the legacy of Johnny Appleseed has had an impact on American folklore and culture.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory
Louis Broomfield	1924-1956	A Pulitzer prize winning author, Louis Broomfield was an advocate for agriculture. After living in France after WWI he moved back to Ohio and purchased Malabar Farm near Mansfield where he became known for his soil conservation efforts.	Malabar Farm State Park
Immigration	18th, 19th, 20th Century	In 1860, 328,249 immigrants lived in Ohio. These people accounted for fourteen percent of the state's population. By 1900, the number of immigrants in Ohio rose to 458,734, but the percentage of the population that was foreign-born declined to eleven percent. Most of these immigrants in 1900 came from Germany, Great Britain, and Ireland, yet a growing number of Eastern Europeans were also migrating to the state.	Ohio History Central, Ohio Memory, Local Historical Societies
		There is a myriad of stories of immigrant life in Ohio. What were some of their experiences? How did these immigrants impact Ohio's History?	
Industrialization & Invention			
The factory worker	19th and 20th Centuries	During the late nineteenth and into the twentieth century, industrialization had a huge impact on the American and Ohio economy. What was the role of the factory worker in this large movement? How did these workers influence this shift of labor from agrarian (farm) to factory labor? What impact did individuals have on improving working conditions. What role did individuals play in events like the Great Steel Strike of 1919?	
Harvey Firestone	1900-1932	With the idea to replaced steel-rimmed buggy wheels with rubber tires, Harvey Firestone started the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company in 1900 in Akron. Five years later, Henry Ford was order tires for automobiles.	Ohio History Central
William Hoover	1908-1932	While William Hoover did not invent the upright vacuum cleaner, he bought the patent from a cousin and went on to create a revolutionary sales and marketing plan. Individual stores would sell the sweepers on commission as licensed dealers and allowed the customers and 10 day trial period. The Hoover company went on to become the largest vacuum cleaner manufacturer in the world	Ohio History Central

Charles Kettering	1909-1947	Charles Kettering and Edward Deeds founded Delco (the Dayton Engineering Laboratories Company) in 1909. Kettering was credited with many innovations for automobiles like the electric ignition system, which eliminated the need for cranking a car before starting. When Delco was bought by General Motors, Kettering was hired as head of the research division and eventually became Vice President at GM.	Ohio History Central
John Henry Patterson	1884-1922	John Henry Patterson owned the National Cash Register Company which became the leading supplier of electric cash registers, changing business ability. He was also known for his fair treatment of workers, understand the importance of proper seating, ventilation and access to bathrooms to make more productive workers.	Ohio History Central
John D. Rockefeller	1862-1910	In 1862, John D. Rockefeller bought his first stake in an oil company in Cleveland. He joined several companies together in north east Ohio in order to fix prices creating Standard Oil in 1870. By 1878, Standard Oil controlled 90% of the oil refineries in the United States. John Sherman, Ohio Senator, proposed anti-trust legislation because of Standard Oil. After the state of Ohio filed suit and finally won in 1911, Standard Oil broke up in many smaller companies.	Ohio History Central
Garrett Morgan	1910's-1920's	Garrett Morgan started as a sewing machine repairman. He later owned a sewing machine repair company. He witnessed a car and carriage crash and eventually invented the traffic signal. He was able to sell his invention to General Electric. He later patented a gas mask used by U.S. troops.	Ohio History Central
Charles Young	1890-1922	Charles Young taught military science at Wilberforce University and later served in the Spanish American War as the major in command of the 9th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (O.V.I.). At the outset of World War I, Young was the highest-ranking African American in the army. Rather than promote him, and place in a position of authority over white soldiers, the army involuntarily retired Young from active duty, ostensibly because of ill health. To prove his fitness for duty, he rode horseback from his home in Wilberforce, Ohio, to Washington, D.C. The army, nevertheless, did not promote him to colonel until after he retired from service.	Ohio Memory
Katharine Wright	1908-1929	Katharine Wright supported her famous brothers emotionally, intellectually, and financially. Katharine spent money from her teaching job to purchase supplies and later helped raise money for them through her writings and public appearances and she was their business manager. The three of them lived together until Wilbur's death and Katharine's marriage to newspaper editor and college classmate Henry Haskell. She graduated from Oberlin College and later became a trustee.	Ohio Memory

Edward Drummond Libbey	1883-1930	In 1883, Edward Drummond Libbey inherited the New England Glass Works from his father. Within a few years, Libbey recognized that the Massachusetts factory could not survive unless it relocated. Libbey looked at several sites in the Midwest, but Toledo's location and resources gave it an edge over the other towns. The New England Glass Works broke ground for its new Toledo location in March 1888. In 1895 Libbey established the Toledo Glass Company with Michael J. Owens (1859-1923). The company produced the first semi-automatic glass-blowing machine, which Owens invented. In 1930, the company merged with the Edward Ford Plate Glass Company to form Libbey-Owens-Ford.	Ohio Memory
Military			
The role of the soldier		Throughout American history, Ohio soldiers have taken up arms to fight for the United States. A History Day project could look at one soldier's contribution as a case study for the importance of the "regular soldier." Students could interview family members, research people from their community, or examine military records. What is the impact of the individual soldier in any conflict?	
William T Sherman	1853-1891	At the outbreak of the Civil War, Sherman accepted a position as a colonel in the regular army. Sherman became well known for his tactics of property damage and psychological warfare against the southern people, best illustrated by his march through Georgia. His goal was to convince the southern people to stop the war, and prevent more battle field deaths. Sherman is credited with the saying "War is hell."	Ohio Memory
Eddie Rickenbacker	1914-1944	Eddie Rickenbacker first gained notoriety as a racecar driver. His fame and skill drew the attention of General Pershing, the commander of the Army Expeditionary Forces in France, who assigned Rickenbacker to be his chauffeur. Rickenbacker gained permission to undergo flight training and upon completion was transferred to the 94th Aero Squadron. He was the unmatched "Ace of Aces," and he soon led the American forces with 26 confirmed victories over the German aircraft. As a result of his successes he was also given command of the 94th Aero Squadron. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions on September 25, 1918, when he attacked a German force of seven aircraft and managed to shoot down two. Following the war Rickenbacker was hailed as a national hero. He once again served the United States after the outbreak of World War II. In October of 1942, he was on board a B-17 bomber that crashed in the Pacific Ocean while on a secret mission to New Guinea. He survived 24 days on the sea in a life raft before he was rescued.	Ohio Memory

Calvin Brice	1863-1897	Calvin Brice attended Miami University and joined the "Home Guard" at the outbreak of the Civil War. After graduating in 1863, he raised his own company and re-entered the war as a captain. Brice rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel by the end of the war. Brice was chairman of the Democratic National Committee in 1889. He served in the U. S. Senate from 1891-1897 and acted as chairman of the Committee on Pacific Railroads. Brice was one of the first publicly elected Senators.	Ohio Memory
Sports			
Joseph F. Carr	1904-1939	Joseph Carr first became involved with football when he formed the Columbus Panhandlers, a team that play other non-professional football teams. In 1920, he helped establish the American Professional Football Association, which eventually became the National Football Association in 1922. Carr served as the second NFL president until his death in 1939.	Pro Football Hall of Fame, Ohio History Central
Branch Rickey	1910's-1960's	A baseball player himself, Wesley Branch Rickey worked for decades as a coach and administrator for baseball. He is credited with creating the farm system of minor league baseball. Most notably, in 1947, Rickey signed Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play in Major League Baseball.	National Baseball Hall of Fame, Ohio History Central
Larry Doby	1942-1970's	After playing in the National Negro League, Larry Doby was signed to the Cleveland Indians, just three months after Jackie Robinson.	National Baseball Hall of Fame, Ohio History Central
Paul Brown	1930-1962	Paul Brown's coaching career began in 1930 at Maryland's Severn Prep, a Naval Academy preparatory school, and in 1932 Brown was hired as head coach for the Massillon Tigers. His overall record in nine years in Massillon was 80 wins, 8 losses, and 2 ties. In 1941 Brown became head football coach of The Ohio State University. In 1946 he became the first head coach of the Cleveland Browns, a position he held until 1962. In 1967 he came out of retirement to start the Cincinnati Bengals.	Pro Football Hall of Fame, Ohio History Central
Jim Thorpe	1916- 1953	Of Native American descent, Jim Thorpe played for the Canton Bulldogs after finishing school. When the NFL was formed, Thorpe became its first president and played football until 1928. He has been recognized as one of the greatest athletes of the 20th Century.	Pro Football Hall of Fame, Ohio History Central
William "Dummy" Hoy	1888-1902	William "Dummy" Hoy was a center fielder in Major League Baseball who played for several teams from 1888 to 1902, most notably the Cincinnati Reds. He is noted for being the most accomplished deaf player in major league history, and is credited by some sources with causing the establishment of umpire signals for safe and out calls.	Ohio Memory
Education			

William H McGuffey	1836-1890	A professor at Miami University, William McGuffey is most known for the development of textbooks that became standardized reading for school children. Between 1836 and 1890, McGuffey's publisher printed and sold more than one hundred million copies of McGuffey's Reader. Practically every American who attended public schools during the second half of the nineteenth century learned moral and ethical lessons from McGuffey's Reader.	Ohio History Central
Naturalists & Environment			
Dr. John Maynard Wheaton	1860-1880	A doctor in Columbus, OH, Dr. Wheaton wrote the two books: <i>Birds of Ohio</i> .	OhioPix
Dr. Jared Kirtland	1793-1877	A state legislator, Dr. Kirtland was interested in natural science and helped found the Cleveland Academy of Natural Sciences. He participated in the US. Geological survey and was part of several other biological discoveries.	Ohio History (The Scholarly Journal of the Ohio Historical Society)
William Starling Sullivant	1840-1872	Sullivant was a son of a founder of Columbus. He was a renowned biologist during the second half of the 19th century.	Ohio History Central
Dr. Howard Jones and Genevieve Estelle Jones	1871-1945	Dr. Jones and his family were also instrumental in preserving Logan Elm and having it managed by the Ohio Historical Society.	Smithsonian Institution Libraries
E. Lucy Braun	1950	World famous Cincinnati botanist from early to mid 20th century	Western Kentucky University
Margaret Nice	1924-1974	Margaret Nice produced a prodigious and famous work on the behavior and ecology of the Song Sparrow (in Columbus) at a time when women were not readily accepted in scientific circles. Her two-volume work was first published in Germany, as she could not get an American publisher to handle it at first.	Columbus Audubon