Mission to Mars Writing Project

In groups of 3-4 students, create a presentation that includes explanatory, argumentative, and narrative writing. Your completed project will consist of 2 writing tasks x the number of students in your group. If your group has 4 students, your completed project will have 8 performance writing tasks from the list below. All writing categories must be represented.

Create a physical presentation, such as a poster, to display your group's collective writings. During the presentation, briefly introduce your writing and what you learned to a student audience before allowing your audience to read or view each piece. You will be graded for both content and aesthetics.

Explanatory Writing	Argumentative Writing	Narrative Writing
Using credible research, explain what the red planet is like. What can the first human inhabitants expect? What important facts must your crew know? Start your research with Mars One Humankind on Mars and Risks and Challenges.	The Mars One Mission is a one-way trip, so it is critical to choose your mission's crew very carefully. Name each member of your group and their occupation. Explain why the occupation is crucial and why the group member is perfect for it. Paragraphs = 1 x # of group members.	Imagine your crew is selected as the first group to travel to Mars. Write a paragraph for each crew member that describes his/her experience based on their job. Some entries should be written about the trip to Mars; other entries should be written about life on Mars.
It's difficult to pack everything you need for a long vacation on Earth, let alone a trip to Mars! Compile a list of the 10 most important supplies. For each supply, give a brief explanation as to why it is important.	At the last minute, NASA has determined that you may bring one family member or friend with you on the one-way trip to Mars. Who would you choose and why? Convince NASA to allow this person to join your trip.	Write a song or a poem dedicated to your one-way trip to Mars. Use poetic devices such as similes, alliteration, and rhyme. The descriptive details must include information from your research about Mars.
Learn more about the Mars One Mission by summarizing the project's roadmap. Use both words and images in your timeline.	Write an argument explaining in detail why humans should or should not live on Mars. Make sure to explain your claim in detail by citing supporting evidence.	Write a science fiction short story explaining a strange occurrence on either the trip to Mars or on the new Mars colony. Use facts from your research to describe the setting and characters.
Design an informational flyer or video explaining how Mars is different from Earth and the other planets in our solar system.	Create an advertisement, print or video, for the Mars One Mission. Carefully select content, color, and font to persuade people to move to the Red Planet.	What if Mars was inhabited by creatures found in John Carter from Mars? Write a fantasy short story to describe John Carter's world and these creatures' lives.

Suggested reading:



Life on Mars by David Getz



Countdown by Ben Mikaelsen