

Oklahoma National History Day

Psychology Topic List

Social Studies Content Standards

1. Examine the foundations of psychology and its origins as a separate social science discipline.
2. Examine the development of psychology as an empirical science by describing the scientific method, explaining research strategies, and identifying ethical issues.
3. Investigate the structure, biochemistry, and circuitry of the brain and the nervous system to understand their roles in affecting behavior.
4. Analyze physical, social, emotional, moral, and cognitive development from conception through the latter stages of adulthood.
5. Understand how organisms adapt to their environment through learning and cognition.
6. Understand the principles of motivation and emotion.
7. Understand how society and culture influence a person's behavior and mental processes.
8. Examine how psychological disorders are diagnosed, classified, and treated.
9. Evaluate the many factors that promote mental health.

Example Topic for History Day

- Andrew Jackson: Hero or Sociopath?
- Freud and the Exploration of the Human Psyche through Psychoanalysis
- Broca, Mustard Seeds, and Bearings: The Dangers of Subconscious Bias in Scientific Experiments
- Pseudoscience and Phrenology: How Behavior is Affected by the Physiology of the Brain, Not the Skull
- Industrialization and the Creation of Adolescence: How American Labor Shortages Created a Myth
- Lead is Murder: How the EPA has done more to lower Homicide Rates in the U.S. than any other Institution
- Pigeons Can Fly (Airplanes): B. F. Skinner and the Exploration of Human Behavior through Experimentation
- The Stanford Prison Experiment: The Effects and Ethical Issues of Perceived Power
- Milgram Experiment: An Explanation of Nazi Killing?
- Studies of Homosexuality (Freud, Havelock, Ellis, Alfred Kinsey, The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual)
- Legacy of the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment
- PETA and the Campaign to Protect Animals
- The Mercator Projection: How We View the World