

# BIOGRAPHY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## Time:

approximately 60-90 minutes (can be divided into smaller blocks of time)

## Instructional Goals:

- The student will research a person using *PebbleGo Next Biographies*.
- The student will design a crossword puzzle based on key facts learned during their research.
- The student will use a word processing or spreadsheet program, or online puzzle creator, to create their crossword puzzle for others to complete.

## Integrated Content Standards:

- AASL Standards Framework for Learners (<http://standards.aasl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/AASL-Learner-Framework-Spread.pdf>)
- Common Core English Language Arts/Literacy Standards ([www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/))
- National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies (<http://www.socialstudies.org/standards>)
- National Educational Technology Standards for Students (<https://www.iste.org/standards/for-students>)
- NCTE/IRA Standards for English Language Arts ([www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira](http://www.ncte.org/standards/ncte-ira))

## Materials/Resources:

- ***PebbleGo Next Biographies*** online database
- **Biography Crossword Research Notes graphic organizer**—one copy for each student
- **Biography Crossword Puzzle Template**—one copy for each student
- **Biography Crossword Puzzle Example for Harriet Tubman**
- **Biography Crossword Puzzle Key for Harriet Tubman**, if desired
- A word processing or spreadsheet program, or online puzzle creator, to create a crossword puzzle for others to solve

## Procedures/Lesson Activities:

### Focus

1. Show students the **Biography Crossword Puzzle Example for Harriet Tubman**.
2. Ask students: What type of puzzle is this? How do you solve this type of puzzle? What do the numbers mean? Why are the words Across and Down important for solving the puzzle?

## Teach/Model

3. Explain that students are going to create a Biography Crossword Puzzle about one of the people in the *PebbleGo Next Biographies* database.
4. Ask students what types of information they would need to know about a person in order to create a crossword puzzle about them. (Answers should include important events, places, and people in that person's life, as well as their accomplishments and why they are famous.)

## Guided Practice

5. Give each student a copy of the **Biography Crossword Puzzle Research Notes graphic organizer**. Review the graphic organizer and explain how students should take their notes and record their citation information.
6. Demonstrate for students how to navigate to *PebbleGo Next Biographies* to begin their research. Model for students using the article for Harriet Tubman.
7. Show students the **Biography Crossword Puzzle Template**. Explain how the information for Harriet Tubman was used to create the **Biography Crossword Puzzle Example for Harriet Tubman**.

## Independent Practice

8. Allow time for students to complete their **Biography Crossword Puzzle Research Notes graphic organizer**.
9. As students complete their research notes, give them a **Biography Crossword Puzzle Template** to use while designing their crossword puzzle.

## Closure

10. Have students create an unsolved version of their **Biography Crossword Puzzle Template** using a word processing or spreadsheet program, or have them create their puzzle using an online puzzle creator website. (Note: Students may also use a blank **Biography Crossword Puzzle Template** to hand-write an unsolved version of their crossword puzzle.)

## Extend/Enrich

- Students trade crossword puzzles and work to solve the other puzzles by using the information in *PebbleGo Next Biographies*.

Lesson/Activity Title:

# BIOGRAPHY CROSSWORD PUZZLE RESEARCH NOTES GRAPHIC ORGANIZER



Person's Name

Childhood & Early Life

Life's Work

Important Accomplishments

Detail

Detail

A graphic organizer diagram. A rectangular box on the left is labeled "Important Accomplishments". Two arrows point from the right side of this box to two separate, horizontally-oriented ovals. Each oval is outlined with a dotted line and contains the word "Detail".

Later Years in Life

Other Interesting Facts

Bibliography





