Title: This Year in History!  
Grade: Grades 6th-8th

Content: English Language Arts/Social Studies/Social Emotional  
Duration: Three sessions of 30-45 minutes

Standard:

- **W.7.2:** Write informative text to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

- **W.7.4:** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

- **HGSS:** Societies experience continuity and change over time.

Objective:
Students will compare the events, prices, trends, etc. of the year they were born to the current year, understanding that today is actually history in the making.

Resources Needed:
- Paper, markers, colored pencils, etc. OR computer
- Examples below

Introduction/Description:

This BACK IN THE DAY poster (made to look like a newspaper) is filled with fun facts of what happened in the year you were born. It’s always fun to look back at what happened in the past, especially years that hold meaning to you.

Now that you are in middle school, wouldn’t it be fun to make one containing what life is like now? It will be a keepsake you can keep and look back on in 10-13 years from now.

You will be creating a “History in the Making” page: a poster of the events of 2020 so far. You have creative freedom in this project. Make it meaningful and something you will like to look back on in the future.

Steps:

- **Brainstorm** a list of topics you want to include on your 2020 newspaper poster. What’s important to you? What’s important in the world?

- **Do research** to get the information for the topics you’ve decided to include.

- **Create your poster,** making it look like a newspaper page similar to the examples below. (It can be computer-generated or hand-drawn.)
- Be creative with your design. This will be a treasure for your future.
- Add small graphics, other design elements (like borders or fonts), and color, if you choose.

**Finished Product:**
Share your poster with your teacher and/or peers as directed.

**Adaptations:**
- You could make it look like a vintage newspaper. Get crafty.
- Interview an adult, finding out what they’d put on their poster from their birth year. Research to complete the project. This would make a great family project, helping everyone get to know each other as well as know more about history.

**Examples:**

![Example Poster](image-url)
BACK IN 2006

World Population
6,623,847,913
USA Population
298 millions

WHAT THINGS COST
Gallon of Milk.......................... $ 3.00
Dozen Eggs.................................. $ 1.54
Postage stamp.................................. $ 0.39
Average salary.............................. $ 49,968
Gallon of gas.................................. $ 2.59
Average new car........................... $23,629
Average house............................... $303,900

TOP MOVIES
Cars
Night at the Museum
The Da Vinci Code
X-Men: The Last Stand

HISTORICAL EVENTS
Subprime mortgage crisis: The housing bubble burst in the summer of 2006, starting a chain of events that would eventually develop into a full-blown market meltdown.
The Blu-ray Disc format is released in the United States.
Nintendo's Wii released in America.
The Walt Disney Company buys Pixar Animation Studios from Lucasfilm Ltd. for $7.4 billion.

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS
MLB World Series
St. Louis Cardinals
Superbowl
Pittsburgh Steelers
NBA Champions
Miami Heat
Stanley Cup Champs
Carolina Hurricanes

Popular TV Shows
Grey's Anatomy
Dancing with the Stars
CSI
American Idol
House

Popular Songs
Bad Day
Daniel Powter

Sean Paul
Temperature

Promiscuous
Nelly Furtado featuring Timbaland

You're Beautiful
James Blunt

Hips Don't Lie
Shakira featuring Wyclef Jean

Oscar Winners
ACTOR
Capote
Philip Seymour Hoffman

ACTRESS
Reese Witherspoon
Walk the Line

DIRECTING
Ang Lee

BEST PICTURE
Crash
The 2007 Chronicle

12 YEARS AGO ON MARCH 31, 2007 - NEW HAVEN, CT

MARY STINER WAS BORN!

CURRENT EVENTS:
Congress elected Nancy Pelosi as the first female Speaker of the House in U.S. history.

“New7Wonders” Foundation announces the new Seven Wonders of the Modern World. Winners are: Great Wall of China, Petra, The Colosseum, Chicken Itza, Machu Picchu, Taj Mahal and Christ the Redeemer.

The first iPhone, the first modern Smartphone, was announced.

MUSIC

Taylor Swift - “Our Song”
Kenny Chesney - “Never Wanted Nothing More”
Rodney Atkins - “Watching You”
Kenny Chesney - “Don’t Blink”
Brad Paisley - “She’s Everything”
Carrie Underwood - “So Small”
Rascal Flatts - “Take Me There”

SPORTS:

WORLD SERIES: Boston Red Sox
NFL CHAMPIONSHIP: New York Giants

TELEVISION:
- Gossip Girl
- Mad Men
- Chuck
- The Tudors
- Heartland
- Skins
- Californication
- Burn Notice
- Gavin & Stacey

TOP MOVIES:
- Into the Wild
- Spider-Man 3
- Transformers
- Hot Fuzz
- Atonement
- Stardust

TOP CELEBRITIES:

Tom Cruise
Oprah Winfrey
Tiger Woods
Johnny Depp
Mel Gibson
Puff Daddy
George Lucas
Steven Spielberg

AVERAGE COSTS:

House: $313,300
Average Income: $49,100
New car: $23,700
Milk: $3.35 a gallon
Gas: $3.38 a gallon
Bread: $1.62 a loaf
Postage stamp: $ .41
Movie ticket: $ 6.88

WORLD POPULATION

6.706 BILLION

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

GEORGE W. BUSH

Mary Stiner
born in New Haven, CT
FLASHBACK TO 2008

THE FLASHBACK TIMES....BACK IN 2008....10¢

BILLBOARD CHART
1. "Low" by Flo Rida feat. T-Pain
2. "Bleeding Love" by Leona Lewis
3. "No One" by Alicia Keys
4. "Lollipop" by Lil Wayne feat. Static Major
5. "Apologize" by One Republic
6. "No Air" by Jordin Sparks & Chris Brown
7. "Love Song" by Sara Bareilles
8. "Love in This Club" by Usher feat. Young Jeezy
9. "With You" by Chris Brown
10. "Forever" by Chris Brown
12. "Take a Bow" by Rihanna
13. "Viva la Vida" by Coldplay
14. "I Kissed a Girl" by Katy Perry
15. "Whatever You Like" by T.I.
16. "Disturbia" by Rihanna

WHAT THINGS COST
NEW HOME: $238,880
INCOME: $40,523
STAMP: 42 cents
GALLON OF GAS: $3.39
NEW CAR: $27,598

HISTORICAL EVENTS
• FEBRUARY 10 - The 50th Annual Grammy Awards took place at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, CA
• MAY 14 - NASA announced the discovery of Supernova remnant G1.9+0.3
• NOVEMBER 4 - Barack Obama was elected as the 44th President of the United States
• DECEMBER 1 - The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 680 points

SPORTS
SUPERBOWL XLII
New York Giants (24) - New England Patriots (14)

NBA CHAMPIONSHIP
Boston Celtics (4) - Los Angeles Lakers (2)

WORLD SERIES
Philadelphia Phillies (4) - Tampa Bay Rays (1)

FIRST APPEARANCES
BEATS ELECTRONICS
GOOGLE PLAY
MACBOOK AIR
UDI’S FOODS
KUNG FU PANDA

BOX OFFICE HITS
THE DARK KNIGHT
INDIANA JONES & THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL
KUNG FU PANDA
HANNAH MONTANA
MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA
QUANTUM OF SOLACE

TV SHOW LINEUP
American Idol
Dancing With the Stars
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
NCIS
The Mentalist
Sunday Night Football
Desperate Housewives
Greys Anatomy

WORLD POPULATION
6,700,000,000