Henry Ford and the Assembly Line

Matthew Powell Individual Website Junior Division Words on Website: 1137 Words on Process Paper: 500

Process Paper

For my National History Day project, I decided to research Henry Ford and the Assembly Line. Ever since I was little I always was interested in engineering and how things work. I wasn't really going for Henry Ford in the first place, my first choice for my NHD topic was John Muir. I almost chose this because John Muir was from Wisconsin, and that is the state that I live in, but I chose Henry Ford because I thought Henry Ford was really influential and a really successful man. My family was really supportive of my choice that we actually went to the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. Another reason I chose Henry Ford was that I can relate to him. All of his innovations greatly affected me and other peoples lives altogether.

I conducted my research by organizing all of my websites, books, and primary sources I found on the web. The first thing I did was find a bunch of websites related to the life of Henry Ford and his assembly line. I put them all in a Google Doc labeled under "websites". Then I went to the library to find books about Henry's life and his career, I put that into my Google Doc under "books". After all that, I found videos related to Henry Ford's work. When I went to the Henry Ford Museum I took pictures of plaques of information that I thought I might need but it turns out I only needed half of it. After the museum, I continued to gather websites and more primary sources. Overall, my best source was *the Henry Ford* website because it had many historic photos and documents about Henry Ford.

I created my project with the new website builder NHDWebCentral that the National History Day staff put together. I think it worked pretty well. The first thing I did on my website was to set up my home page. Learning the website builder was a little hard at first but I got used to it. I had a visual representation of what my website was going to look like in my mind so I put that representation on the website itself. I set up my navigation bar up and linked the pages to it so it would go to the page it was supposed to. I had to write all my information on the builder first then I had to copy them into Google to count the words. When I had my 1,200 words I copied and pasted them into my website. I inserted all the pictures and videos, gave them captions and then I was done.

Henry Ford and his Assembly Line relates to the theme of Breaking Barriers in History because of his idea of the Assembly Line made producing cars faster and cheaper. When Henry Ford introduced his famous \$5 workday enabled his employees and other people to buy the cars they built, purchase homes, decorate their homes and support their families.

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