**Your History Day Roadmap**

**Step 1: Choose a Topic**

* Choose something that interests you!
* You must relate your topic to the Annual Theme.

**Step 2: Research!**

* Remember, historians are like detectives who investigate and discover the past.
* Use both primary and secondary sources. Reading plenty of secondary sources will prepare you to analyze and interpret primary sources. Secondary sources also help you to understand historical context, change over time, turning points, short-term and long-term outcomes.
* Use credible sources that are created by experts. Evaluate *every* website you use.
* Use a variety of sources. Historians don’t just rely on the internet. They use actual books and articles, interviews, historic newspapers and magazines, letters, diaries, photos, maps, paintings, video clips, advertising, propaganda, government documents, etc.
* Conduct balanced research. Investigate various points of view, understand all sides of an issue, explore conflicts and debates.
* Track your sources as you go.

**Step 3: Create Your Project**

* Think about what your sources show. Ask why and how questions.
* Analyze what you have found. Draw conclusions based upon the historical evidence.
* Orient your project with a strong thesis statement.
* Be specific about the ways your topic relates to the theme.
* Place your topic in historical context.
* Explain what happened.
* Use quotes, documents, pictures, and other primary sources to illustrate your thesis.
* Identify significance. What changed? What were the consequences? Why does this matter?
* Follow the rules for your category.

**Step 4: Complete Required Materials**

* Process Paper
* Annotated Bibliography

***Explore \* Discover \* Create \* Have Fun \* Amaze Yourself!***

Utah History Day (2015)