

PROJECT IDEAS

For exploring Fundamental Human Needs (FHN)

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE

Focus: *Hands-on, short projects focusing on material needs*

Collage Options

- How we meet our needs in the present (transportation, housing, food, etc.)
- How one need has been met across time (eg. cars from past to present)
- How one need is met in different countries (eg. clothing from different countries)
- Use magazines (old National Geographic editions are great!)

Crafts

- Cardboard castle
- Craft stick catapult
- Beading and jewelry-making

SECOND AND THIRD GRADE

Focus: *Use of timelines (BC/AD, 1st and 2nd Timeline of Human Beings), compare and contrast*

Fundamental Human Needs across time

- Explore one section of the First Timeline of Human Beings
- Re-create the experiences of early humans (eg. weapons, tools, art)

Explore food

- Classify food labels
- Explore nutrition
- Create recipes
- Tie in with botany and geography
- Create a FHN food chart

FOURTH THROUGH SIXTH GRADE

Focus: *Spiritual needs, moral issues, study of ancient civilizations, local history*

Develop a Timeline of one FHN

Spiritual needs

- Comparative Religions
- Culture (art, music, dance)

Continue exploring food as a FHN

- Moral issues of food
 - Food taboos
 - Animal husbandry
 - Monocultures and seed depositories
- From hunting to domesticating animals (how changes in diet impact health)

SUGGESTED BOOKS

Fiction (for inspiration):

[Weslandia](#)*

[My Side of the Mountain](#)*

Non-fiction (for research):

[Human World](#)*

[The Story of Food](#)*

GUIDELINES FOR MAKING A TIMELINE WITH CHILDREN

Free download:

<https://montessorionline.com/collections/montessori-history-materials/products/guidelines-for-making-a-timeline-with-children>

*Affiliate links