For your 1st semester outside reading assignment, you will be choosing a biography of a famous American. You may choose from any of the biographies we have in our OWLibrary. You will also be doing a number of small assignments, an essay, and a creative writing project with the information you learn as you read your biography.

**Essay:** You will be writing a RESEARCH paper over the individual you have chosen. You will use the biography as a resource, but you’ll also use library databases and other articles written about or by your famous American. This essay will part of your 1st semester FINAL and will be due toward the beginning of December after we’ve gathered information and discussed how to write a paper of this kind. It will be written in MLA format with a Works Cited page and in-text citations.

**Creative Writing Poetry:** You will be writing a narrative poem about an event from the life of your famous American. You may choose to write it in 1st person from the perspective of your person, or you may write it from the perspective of someone who was present at the event you’re describing. We will be learning about narrative poetry and elements that you will need to include in this poem. You’ll also have to perform the poem in some way. (More on this later.)

**Other Biography Assignments Overview (not a complete list)**
- Life Web and Timeline
- 3 Diary Entries (1st person)
- Obituary/Eulogy/Epitaph
- Photo Collage with captions
- Answer the “Big Idea” Questions
- Miscellaneous assignments

**PBL Public Showcase:** Our goal is to present the life of our famous Americans in many formats for, not just our classmates, but other school personnel, parents, community members, etc. We’ll see how all of this comes together as we progress throughout the semester. It is possible that these presentations will also be part of your 1st semester FINAL.