



Project: Collaborative Timeline

Creating a giant timeline to investigate a topic in New Hampshire history is a great way to involve a whole group of kids working together. Below are some suggestions on how to adjust the timeline project into a more collaborative effort.

Plan Your Group Timeline

- With your group, discuss possible questions or themes to investigate that relate to New Hampshire history. Work with the group to build a consensus on just one question or theme to pursue.
- Create a list of entries for your timeline. What people or events will you include? Visit the “Moose on the Loose” Timeline to find entry ideas that relate to your question or theme. With more people working on the project, the timeline will be substantially longer than an individual timeline, depending on the available time kids have for the project. Ideally, each student would research 3–5 entries.
- Assign entries to each group member. Decide in advance how each person’s entries will be grouped. Will one person research similar items to cut down on research time? Or will a person’s items be spread out over the timeline, which will require more research? Assignments could also be grouped by type, with some group members researching biographies and others researching events, etc.
- Choose the time span and intervals for your timeline.

Build Your Group Timeline

- As a group, decide what form your timeline will take and what materials you will need to build it.
- Once the form of the timeline is chosen, the group can then discuss what information is important to include for each timeline entry and in what format that information will appear (i.e., separate categories for each type of information—name, date, relevance—or one long paragraph). Decide if each entry will include an image and caption. Establish where this material will appear for each entry and how each entry will look, so that there is some consistency between entries on the timeline.
- Working with a partner, group members may want to peer review each entry, which gives kids a chance to discuss with each other how the entries are relevant to one another. This discussion can also occur as a group.
- Once the entries are researched and edited, kids can create the final version of the entry based on whatever design the group has determined and then assemble the complete timeline.

