

F2. Cemetery Visit - General Information

Before going to the cemetery, spend some time on background information.

The students are given the following subjects that they are to research and present to the class. This is usually done as a group or in pairs. The students are taught some about telephone etiquette, since some of this must be by phone.

Topics for Research

Epitaphs--The significance of, unusual ones famous ones.

The history of the Local Cemetery

Burial Customs -Local and other cultures.

Average cost of Funerals

Average life spans through the years and how it has changed.

Engravings on tombstones--etc. flowers, birds... what do they mean?

Mausoleums, history of, where and when they were used the most

Wars-Brief Description, years that they took place. (This is helpful for finding evidence of people that died in wars from the Cemetery Packet.)

How monuments are made, materials, methods, price.

Worksheet for Cemetery Visit

FOR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS YOU WILL NEED TO WRITE DOWN ALL THE INFORMATION THAT YOU CAN TO IDENTIFY THE CORRECT ANSWERS.

List the different countries and cultures that are represented.

What evidence can you find of any of the following: epidemics, plagues, war, catastrophes?

How many wars can you find represented by graves?

What is the oldest tombstone that you can find?

What is the newest tombstone that you can find?

Find a tombstone with the same month and day (different year) as your birth date.

Find the name of some that is famous. An example. Mel Gibson is still alive, but see if you can find another Mel Gibson that is buried.

Write down at least four epitaphs that you find interesting.

Pick out at least one tombstone that moved you somehow. Be sure you write down all information about it, including the physical description of it.

List all names that are real famous people that are buried here.

What indications can you find of the wealth or standard of living some of the people buried here had.

Make at least three rubbings of tombstones that you find interesting.

<http://www.angelfire.com/ky2/cemetery/general.html>