

Soviet Space Race
Braeden Foester, Tate Slms. Aaron Hare
Senior Division
Group Website

I am unsure exactly how the topic of doing the Soviet Union's side of the space race came to mind, due to the fact that I joined the project after my group had already chosen the topic. However, I really liked the topic because I've always been curious about the space race, and wanted to know more about it. National History Day (NHD) has provided me with the opportunity to learn more about the event.

The way I first began searching for my sources was not easy, because I was using Google Chrome, therefore CRAAP (Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, and Purpose) testing the source was difficult. However, once I was given a tip from my teacher and a few of my friends to use the ONW libguides website, I could easily see that the sites, articles, etc., were credible sources. From there, everything was found on a website, although the documents themselves were government records, articles, photographs, etc.

I believe our topic of the Soviet Union's side of the space race was fitting for the theme of triumph and tragedy, because both were a big part of this event. There were triumphs for Russia, including their launch of Sputnik, their determination, their success in Luna, and their technological advancements. Unfortunately, there were also many tragedies, such as when Luna failed to hit the moon, and the creation of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The way our group put our project together was by learning about what each person found in their research, and then working that information into the website we created. The way in which we managed our time and communicated with one another was key when making the project successful. One team member would focus on a certain part of the space race, while another looked into information about a different part. I really enjoyed working with my group members on this project, as well as learning more about the space race.