

My Nellie McClung Visual Explanation (Grade 4-6)

1. The format I chose was _____ because....

- I used Canva to create a visual about Nellie McClung and the highlights of her life
- I used this because it was a new kind of format for me that I had not used before and my teacher encouraged us to try something new
- I chose this because I thought I could include a lot of details about her

2. My purposeful choices were... (explain how you showed your research findings)

- I kept it all in black and white to show that she lived in the past
- I put pins on it to make it look like I was making a board about her
- At the top, I have the most important aspects of why she was a champion and these were positive, so they go at the top
 - She fought for women’s rights like the right to vote and be considered a person
 - She fought for equal pay for people doing the same jobs
 - She fought for Japanese Canadians to have the right to vote
 - She fought for Jewish refugees and Asian and Aboriginal women to have rights in Canada
 - She thought alcohol caused issues and wasn’t healthy so she fought for prohibition so it would stay illegal
 - She was an author of many books
 - She did all of this while raising her children. I was surprised she had five kids! She was so busy even though she was raising them and protecting them. Some people said she was a bad mom for not staying home and getting involved in politics, but she said that made her an even better mom because she was making the world a better place for her kids. I loved that she fought back against her critics!
- I included the fact that she only went to school from age 10-16 because I thought it was really impressive that she only had a bit of school herself but she went on to do great things and become an amazing writer
- I included the word “racist” in black at the bottom because it is sad. It is over her head because even though she did all of these amazing things, she also believed mentally ill and disabled people should not be allowed to have kids and believed in eugenics – which means you decide who should and should not have babies and that is so unfair. Some people called her racist, but she did help many other groups in other ways
- She is most famous for being part of the Famous 5, so I made that section big. With four other women, she fought for equal rights for women and got women recognized as “persons” in 1929

3. How this person impacted and inspired me...

- Nellie McClung inspired me in three ways:
 - First, she stayed true to fighting for what she believed in, even when people were being mean. People told her she wasn’t a good mom because her kids weren’t always able to have her at home. She said parents should both be with their kids a lot, not just moms. She said, “but not 24 hours a day for either of them”. My mom also works and sometimes I miss her, like when I’m home sick

and my grandma comes over instead of my mom being home to help. When I think of Nellie, I realize my mom is excited to go to her work and people are lucky my mom goes to work because she is a vet and she helps animals feel better. If my mom didn't go to work, she would be bored and animals wouldn't be helped. My mom is a great mom even though she has a job. Like Nellie, I want to work to help make the world a better place. I want to find a job that excites me like how Nellie was still writing books when she was in her 70s. I want to go more to my mom's clinic to see if I would love being a vet as much as she does!

- Second, she made me realize that people don't have to be perfect to do good things. Nellie didn't make the best choices all the time and was mean to people with disabilities, but she still helped many other people. Sometimes when I make a mistake, I want to give up. Nellie reminds me that no one is perfect because she was so smart about some things, but not smart about other things. I wish she had fought for all people equally, but she didn't. She made mistakes. Sometimes I am mean to people on my ringette team when I don't think they are trying hard enough or they make a mistake that causes us the game. I need to remember that everyone makes mistakes. My teammate might make a mistake on the ice and I might make a mistake getting angry. No one is perfect. Nellie wasn't a perfect person, but even if she did some really mean things, she also did some great things.
- Third, Nellie taught me that you can work hard even when you aren't at school. Nellie was a famous author and smart person but she only went to school for six years. During COVID, I really didn't like doing work at home and would fight about doing it. Nellie reminds me that I am lucky to have school – even if it is online. I need to work hard because not all girls in the past or even today in some countries get to go to school as much as they like. Even if I don't like online classes it is still better than no school. I will do better to show my appreciation for school by doing my homework without complaining.

4. Bibliography

Hallet, Mary. "Nellie McClung". Canadian Encyclopedia.

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/nellie-letitia-mcclung>

Loewen, Caroline. "Nellie McClung's Complicated Legacy". Loughheed House.

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Zieman, Margaret. "Nellie was a Lady Terror". Macleans.

<https://archive.macleans.ca/article/1953/10/1/nellie-was-a-lady-terror#:~:text=Nellie%20McClung%2C%20who%20spearheaded%20the,the%20fight%20for%20equal%20suffrage.>

The Nellie McClung Foundation. <https://www.nelliemcclungfoundation.com/learn>

Judges' Feedback:

1. Champion as an Outstanding Albertan

- The written rationale explains the project to the audience. It includes key facts about the champion's life and shows solid research.

2. Student as a Leader

- The student has thought of at least three ways the champion inspired the student. The student should explain more clearly how they will LEAD now because of this champion's inspiration, not just how the champion inspired them in other ways.

3. Quality of Communication Skills

- The explanation is well-written. The project is clear and has some purposeful choice. The student had more research than what ended up on the visual, so they could have added some more of that.

4. Writing Conventions and References

- Reliable references were included and the writing was edited clearly.