Planning evidence

**Topic: Kate Sheppard**

I will study Ms Sheppard because she is a pioneer not just for New Zealand women but for women all over the world. How did NZ get the vote for women first in the world? I have always wanted to know this. Now is my chance.

1. What were the reasons for Kate to migrate to New Zealand?
2. What experiences did Kate have in New Zealand?
3. What impact did she have on our society?

**Books:**

1. Dr. Katherine Aasletad
   - *Historicas Women*
   - Give reliable non-biased information about women who had important roles in society.

2. Kevin Boon
   - *Kate Sheppard*
   - Lots of information on Kate Sheppard.

**Internet:**

1. [www.paperspast.com](http://www.paperspast.com)
   - Gives primary resources from newspaper articles at the time.

   - Reliable information secondary sources

**Other:**

1. School’s vertical files
   - Holds newspaper articles for important dates in time.

2. Kate Sheppard’s Journal
   - Personal views, details

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**Time Management Plan**

**5th May**

After reading the instruction sheet carefully and making sure I understand what is asked of me in every task, I will decide whether to do an individual or migrant group. Ask my peers for information on whether my idea for a group or individual is good.

**6th May**

Write my time management plan to help me keep on track with my inquiry. Begin completing task 1 and have this ready for the checkpoint. Look around the library for possible books and other resources that might be useful and include them in task 1. (Try key words ‘wctu’, ‘kate sheppard’, ‘womens suffrage’)

**7th May**

Have task 1 completed and have that checked by the teacher by the end of that days lesson. Begin looking at tasks 2-3. Add any necessary items to the task management plan and start completing task 2 for the due date of 13th May

**11th May**

Annotate all evidence selected so far. Remember: link information to the focusing questions, discuss source reliability, cross-reference, weigh, compare reliability of different pieces of evidence. Print out extra evidence sheets in the library and bind them together in a folder to help with organising my research. Look for possible sources to use out of the resources found in task 2. Begin filling out evidence sheets and using a variety of primary and secondary sources.

Etc.: 6 more similar entries...

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**Selected evidence**

**FQ: Why did she migrate to NZ?**


*Downloaded: Wed 22/05/12*

[17 lines of printed evidence]

**Annotation:** This source helps me understand the focusing question because it talks about how Kate Sheppard migrated to New Zealand because of her family wanting a new start and a place to exceed with Kates intellectual ability.
Other examples of annotation comments:

This source helps me closely understand the focusing question of why Kate Sheppard migrated to NZ. From another person's point of view it explains how much of a better country NZ is to live in which would explain why Kate Sheppard's parents would have chosen to migrate.

This source helps me understand the focusing question because it talks about the efforts of Kate Sheppard to obtain signatures for her petition. It shows me how because of her they reached 30,000 signatures in favour of women's vote. Also how Kate Sheppard herself signed her own petition.

This source helps me understand the focusing question because I can see the many signatures that Kate Sheppard obtained to give the parliament in favour of women's vote. This helps me see what experiences she had in New Zealand.

Evaluation

Limitations of resources, validity/reliability of sources:

One problem I found in my research project was finding primary sources for focusing Question 1 about why Kate Sheppard migrated to New Zealand. As it was not Kate's decision but her families, I am restricted in ways to explain and answer my focusing question. This limitation was overcome however by using a newspaper article about other English migrants which specifically answered my question. Had I reworded my question better, I would have been able to find a wider range of sources that would have been more reliable and easier to find that the one primary I used. Another problem in my research project was writing up my plan for the assessment. I didn't understand what was being asked of me until I made the effort to go into detail about the task and fully understand it. This set me back 1-2 key days. In my inquiry that I could have been using to gather and evaluate evidence sheets for my focusing question. Thankfully I completed my planning sheet promptly and addressed everything that was asked of me. If it had asked about my plan on day 1, I would have completed it quicker and be further ahead in my assessment.

Comment and explain successful aspects of your research:

Because of the questions I chose, I was able to find many sources that would answer my 2nd and 3rd focusing question. This allowed me to pick and choose the most reliable and best evidence sheets that I could find for my inquiry project. This overall impacted my project because it meant that the evidence sheets used were reliable and answered my questions accurately. Another successful aspect of my inquiry project was the way I used more books than Internet sources for evidence. Books are written by historians that cross-reference their information heavily before publishing to ensure it is accurate. Unlike the Internet, people can post anything that they thought were true. This means a lot of Internet sources may be biased or unreliable. Because there were so many books in our school library about Kate Sheppard I was able to use evidence that was reliable.

What would you improve for future research?

One aspect of my enquiry project that I would change would be to pick more books over Internet sources. My school library had a lot of books on Kate Sheppard and other historical New Zealand women that I feel I didn't utilise. Using books instead of the internet allowed me to only gather reliable and trusted information that I know has been cross referenced by the historian that wrote the book. This would overall allow my research to be more reliable... and have less chance for bias or inaccurate information. Another thing I would change about my assessment would be to pick a better question for focusing Question 1. As Kate Sheppard is an individual there were very few reasons for her migrating to New Zealand other than her mother wanting a better country for her children to grow up in.