

E=mc²:

A Revolutionary Breakthrough

Process Paper

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Individual Website

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I first browsed through possible topics and events online to find one that is challenging and would fit the theme. My initial plan was to do one on a person or an event, but then realized that I already had experience on those, so I decided to get out of my comfort zone and do a scientific breakthrough. I stumbled upon the topic of the atomic bomb. It fitted the criteria, so I researched its feasibility. I quickly realized that it was only one of the legacies of the revolutionary equation, $E=mc^2$. With this, I reflected on what I already knew about $E=mc^2$. I recalled learning from a book that the equation combined the biggest scientific achievements of the past. This intrigued me, so I decided to choose this.

I had background knowledge of the equation and its history from a chapter book I read. I needed that knowledge to determine what areas of research to dig deeper into. I figured that I had enough notes from the book, so I went online for my research. I prefer online research because it usually contains an abundance of easily accessible content and in-depth information. After obtaining foundational knowledge, I looked into primary sources to form my own interpretation of the equation's story and significance. I used *Chronicling America* to get an idea of what the press, the people, and the ones in authority thought about a given event. After reading through some newspapers, I found some important paragraphs/text that I incorporated into my website to aid the reader in understanding the topic. Also, pictures from the past express a lot of important messages, so I added them to my website as well. After looking through both primary and secondary sources, I identified gaps in my knowledge and looked online to fill them in, so my website would not have gaps as well.

I chose the website category because I believed it would not only contribute to my technology skills, but it would help me learn how to convey information more effectively in a

manner that would hold the attention and interest of my audience. Since the new website maker provided fewer templates, it would challenge me to learn how to format and make my website visually appealing without relying on theme templates. For the website category, it is allowed and even encouraged to add pictures and visuals. And because I'd like to express my information effectively, this feature is very advantageous. With all this, I believed that doing a website would be the most reasonable and suitable choice.

My project on $E=mc^2$ connects to the theme of breaking barriers because of its history and legacy of scientific breakthroughs. It's an inspiring story of the perseverance of scientists who made it happen. The individual scientists who contributed to the journey had their own barriers, and the perseverance they exhibited to breakthrough proves that not only can they break science's barriers, but also mental and societal barriers.