

## Minequest Task List: Riches of Wyoming

**Big Question:** Should the Global Awareness Mining Company expand its coal mining operations to any of Wyoming's nine coal fields?

**Task #1:** Meet with your team to devise a plan for completing your first round of research. First and foremost, your initial research will help you explore and clarify your role. But, you will also need to share what you learn with classmates. Are there strategies for note taking that will make this easier? Will you be more efficient visiting websites as a team, or should you divide the list and complete some of the work individually? Check the deadline your teacher has given you to complete this task and plan your work schedule accordingly.

**Task #2:** Begin your research. Conduct your search with your ultimate goal in mind. You and your teammates must use your research to inform your classmates of the best site from your "expert" perspective. Look for the information that will help you identify the pros and cons of each site from your assigned role's point of view.

**Task #3:** As a class ...

1. Elect a Minequest Leader and Recorder: These key positions are critical to the success of the Minequest. While continuing to assist their teams with research, these students are also responsible for organizing and leading whole class discussions, including synthesizing all of the individual team recommendations into a whole class recommendation and posting notes during class discussion.
2. Clarify the Task: Under the direction of the Minequest leader and recorder, participate in a discussion which:
  - a. confirms that all teams and individuals understand the expected outcome of the research and
  - b. identifies research problems or questions and shares research solutions that emerged in the Mining for Information part of the quest.

**Task #4:** As a team ....

Review your notes from your first round of web research. What have you already learned that will help you make a recommendation? What questions still need to be answered to formulate a recommendation? What information needs to be collected to support your recommendation? Make a chart to post in your classroom with two columns. Title one column "KNOW" and the other "NEED TO KNOW." Always wearing the hat of your assigned expert, inventory what you already know in one column. In the Need to Know column list questions you still need to answer before you can determine your team's recommendation for which site is the best for GAMC expansion. Post your chart in class and, as directed by your teacher, view other team lists. Make notes to share in the upcoming class discussion.

**Task #5:** Under the direction of your Minequest Leader and Recorder, participate in a class discussion to share answers to the Need to Know questions from each team.

Task #6: With your team, develop an Action Plan to guide your continued research and assign duties. Sequence exactly what each member of your group will be doing. Confirm that each member of the team knows and understands the search questions, the timeline, and individual research assignments.

Task #7: Under the direction of the Minequest leader and recorder, meet as a class to hear each team report their research action plans. As groups present, the leader and recorder will begin coordinating the development of a Master Schedule to guide the remainder of the work for completion by the assigned deadline.

Task #8: Follow your team's Action Plan and the class master schedule to return to the Internet and complete research. Then reach team consensus on the conclusions of your findings and draft a written recommendation. Your written recommendation must include the pros and cons of each site, your recommended site and the specific facts or findings which led you to your decision.

Task #9: As a class, share team results and agree on a final recommendation. (See more details for processes online.)

Task #10: As an individual, revisit your class's completed matrix and select any two separate scores. Identify the scores you choose by the cell they are in such as Change 3, Criterion 5. In a written explanation, make a case to support why your class chose these two ratings. Or instead you may write a "dissenting" opinion, explaining why you were in the minority and did not agree with the rating.

Task #11: As an individual, write an explanation of how the final site recommendation was or was not an example of compromise. Did some of the roles represented by teams have to sacrifice in order for the class to come to an agreement? How did the benefits or "pros" offered by the final recommendation outweigh the "cons" presented for that site?

Task #12: Visit the Minequest Lobby and share your insights about discoveries you made in this learning journey. Share your discoveries and insights about research, teamwork, decision-making, or compromise.