

**MR. BLANKENSHIP'S GUIDE TO  
MARDI GRAS 2007 AT CMM**

Mardi Gras is the 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration at CMM. We have a lot of fun while learning about this aspect of Louisiana life. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON 13 FEBRUARY 2007.**

**ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT**

If your family has objections to participation in Mardi Gras I will provide an alternative and comparable assignment on the Civil War in Louisiana. You will substitute by presenting on a major battle of the Civil War in Louisiana. Rather than a doubloon, you will recreate a unit insignia from that era. A model of an ironclad warship will be substituted for the miniature float. You will wear a Civil War military uniform or civilian clothing appropriate to the era. Your bonus opportunities will include making a Civil War era parasol, hard tack (I will provide a recipe), hat, and mess kit). During the Mardi Gras celebration and dance you will stay in my room and view a documentary on the Civil War as your alternative activity. Each of the other assignments will have an alternative based on the Civil War. **IF YOU PLAN TO DO THE ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT SEE ME AS SOON AS YOU DECIDE!**

**DOUBLOON**

The doubloon is built from a plain paper plate (no separate compartments). Make sure your doubloon follows these guidelines:

- ✓ Appropriate size
- ✓ Student Name in appropriate place
- ✓ Krewe theme and year in design
- ✓ Design reflects the krewe theme
- ✓ Appropriate use of materials

CATEGORY	5	3	0
Size	The doubloon is the size of a 10-inch paper plate.	The doubloon is smaller than a 10-inch plate.	No doubloon was submitted.
Student Name	The student name was written on the back of the doubloon.	The student name was written on the front of the doubloon.	No doubloon was submitted or the name was not written on the doubloon.
Krewe Theme Stated	The doubloon clearly states the krewe theme.	The doubloon misstates the krewe theme.	No doubloon was submitted or the doubloon does not state the theme.
Krewe Theme Depicted	The doubloon clearly depicts the krewe theme.	The doubloon somewhat depicts the theme.	No doubloon was submitted.
Krewe Year	The year the krewe was established is clearly stated.	The wrong year is stated.	No doubloon was submitted.
Materials	The doubloon uses appropriate, adequate, creative, and interesting materials.	The use of materials is skimpy, the quality is poor, or the use of materials is uninteresting.	No doubloon was submitted.
Creativity	The doubloon reflects creative thought and is different from others while being attractive.	The doubloon is ordinary and conventional.	No doubloon was submitted.
Neatness	The doubloon is neat and attractive.	The doubloon is a little messy.	No doubloon was submitted or the doubloon is messy.

**MINIATURE FLOAT**

The miniature float is built on a shoebox or shirt box. It should follow my grading rubric:

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1	0
Student Name	The student's name is written on a 4x6 index card and taped to the bottom or the inside of the float.	The student's name is written on a 4x6 index card and taped to somewhere other than the bottom or the inside of the float.	The student's name is written directly on the bottom or inside of the float.	The student's name is written on the outside of the float.	No name.
Appropriate Size	The float is made from a shoe or shirt box.	The float is made from a box larger than a shoe or shirt box.	The float is made from a box slightly smaller than a shoe or shirt box.	The float is made from a box the size of a large matchbox or smaller.	No box.
Name of Krewe on Float	The name of the krewe is clearly stated on the float. The lettering is neat and attractive.	The name of the krewe is clearly stated on the float. The lettering is less than neat and attractive.	The name of the krewe is not clearly stated on the float or the lettering is not neat and attractive.	The wrong krewe name is stated.	No krewe name is stated.
Theme on Float	The theme of the float is clearly stated on the float. The lettering is neat and attractive.	The theme of the float is clearly stated on the float. The lettering is less than neat and attractive.	The theme of the float is not clearly stated on the float or the lettering is not neat and attractive.	The wrong theme is stated.	No theme is stated.
Title of Float	The title of the float is clearly stated on the float. The lettering is neat and attractive.	The title of the float is clearly stated on the float. The lettering is less than neat and attractive.	The title of the float is not clearly stated on the float or the lettering is not neat and attractive.	The wrong title is stated.	No title is stated.
Depiction of Theme	The theme is clearly depicted throughout the float. All elements of the float support the theme.	The theme is clearly depicted throughout the float. Most elements of the float support the theme.	The theme is depicted on much of the float OR the theme is not clear to the observer.	The theme is depicted on a few parts of the float OR the theme is not the theme of the assigned/selected krewe.	No theme is depicted.
Neatness	The float has a sharp, neat appearance that is eye-catching and appealing.	The float is fairly neat and attractive.	The float is somewhat messy or unappealing.	The float is not neat or is very unappealing.	No float was submitted for grading.
Creativity	The float is creative and includes elements that are surprisingly creative.	The float is somewhat creative.	The float is typical and meets the requirements for the competition.	The float is dull and boring, reflecting little effort or thought.	No float was submitted.
Models	The float includes three-dimensional models. All models are interesting, attractive, and make a positive contribution to the appearance and support the theme of the float.	The float includes two-dimensional models. All models are interesting, attractive, and make a positive contribution to the appearance and support the theme of the float.	The float includes three-dimensional models. The models are less than interesting, attractive, and/or do not make a positive contribution to the appearance and support the theme of the float.	The float includes two-dimensional models. The models are less than interesting, attractive, and/or do not make a positive contribution to the appearance and support the theme of the float.	No models are included.
Authenticity	The float looks like a real Mardi Gras float.	The float looks somewhat like a Mardi Gras float.	The float meets the requirements for the competition but is not realistic.	The float does not meet the requirements for the competition and is not realistic.	No float was submitted.

**COSTUME**

On Mardi Gras Day you will come to school dressed in a costume that represents a rider on the float that you designed.

Guidelines:

- ✓ You will create, design, make, and put together a costume that represents a rider on the float that you designed. That means it must reflect your krewe's general theme and the specific theme/title of your float. Your parents may help you with their guidance and suggestions. (HELP is the key word).
- ✓ You should not rent or buy a costume.
- ✓ This costume should not be formal attire unless this is specifically related to the general theme of your krewe and the specific theme/title of your float.
- ✓ This costume must be worn all day on Mardi Gras Day (you come to school in this costume and you go home in this costume).
- ✓ This costume must be within the guidelines of the school dress code.
- ✓ The costume must include a mask and hat.

**The costumes will be graded on:**

- ✓ Creativity and use of materials and props.
- ✓ Uniqueness and originality.
- ✓ Reflection of the general theme of their krewe and the specific title of their float.

CATEGORY	10	5	0
Krewe Theme	The krewe theme is clearly depicted in the costume.	The krewe theme is somewhat depicted in the costume.	The krewe theme is not depicted in the costume.
Home Made	The costume was made at home, not bought or rented at a store.	The costume was bought or rented.	No costume.
Appropriate Attire	The costume is not formal attire unless the krewe theme requires formal attire.	The costume includes formal attire even though this is not required by the krewe theme.	No costume.
Props	The costume includes relevant, appropriate, and safe props.	The props are not clearly relevant, appropriate, or safe.	No props.
Dress Code	The costume clearly complies with the school dress code.	Any teacher or school official questions compliance with the dress code.	The costume is found to be out of compliance with the dress code. Additional disciplinary action may occur.
Mask	The costume includes a mask that clearly reflects the krewe theme.	The costume includes a mask that does not clearly reflect the krewe theme.	No mask.
Hat	The costume includes a hat that clearly reflects the krewe theme.	The costume includes a hat that clearly reflects the krewe theme.	No hat.
Creativity	The costume reflects creative thought.	The costume is conventional and ordinary.	No costume.
Originality	The costume is original; no one else has the same costume.	The costume is conventional and similar to others.	No costume.

**EXTRA CREDIT**

- ✓ Mardi Gras Umbrella (15)
- ✓ Mardi Gras Coconut (10)

Grading rubrics for the assignments are posted on my web site: <http://www.paulblankenship.com>