

Name: _____

Date: _____

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Directions: Use the provided websites to answer the questions.

Panama Canal Webquest



The Panama Canal was built to shorten the sea route around South America. It is one of the greatest engineering projects of our time and perhaps the greatest accomplishment of American imperialism.

This webquest will explore:

- Why the United States believed the canal was necessary
- How the canal was built and the challenges that faced the engineers who designed it
- How the canal lock system works

Directions: Use these websites to answer the following questions.

<http://www.smplanet.com/imperialism/joining.html>

http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Clayton-Bulwer_Treaty.aspx

1. What did the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty say about the roles of the United States and Great Britain if a canal were to be built in South America?

http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Hay-Pauncefote_Treaties.aspx

2. How did the Hay-Pauncefote Treaties change the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty?

<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1899-1913/panama-canal>

3. What South American country owned the land that is now the independent nation of Panama?

4. Why were the French unable to complete a canal through Panama? How many workers died during the French attempt?

5. What did Theodore Roosevelt do after the Columbian government rejected the offer from the United States to build the canal? Who did he support?



<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/whybuild.html>

6. Why did the United States want the canal built?

<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/make-the-Dirt-Fly/chooseroute.html>

7. Skip to the last paragraph on this page. Why did the United States choose to build the canal in Panama instead of Nicaragua?

http://www.cdc.gov/malaria/about/history/panama_canal.html

8. Describe **4** of the steps that were taken to rid the Canal zone of deadly diseases such as malaria and yellow fever that were spread by mosquitos?

<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/make-the-Dirt-Fly/dirtfly.html>

9. Other than diseases, what challenges did the geography of Panama present during the building of the canal?

If you finish early take a look at how the canal works:

<http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/dl/free/007876809x/223252/canallocks.html>