



## Lesson Plan Summary

### Magic Tree House #17: Tonight on the Titanic

#### Unsinkable Facts

| THIS EXTENTION WILL ENABLE EACH CHILD TO:  | COMMON CORE STANDARDS ADDRESSED:  |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Choose topics related to the Titanic for further research.</li><li>• Use age appropriate resource materials to conduct research on Titanic topics.</li><li>• Complete Magic Tree House resource Cards to record proper citing of age appropriate sources.</li><li>• Record findings on Unsinkable Fact Cards for use in an accordion style envelope book.</li><li>• Construct an accordion style envelope book to display and store facts about the Titanic discovered through research.</li><li>• Share research with classmates.</li></ul> | <p><b>WRITING:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Text Types and Purposes<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.</li><li>○ To introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections.</li><li>○ To develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotation, or other information and examples related to the topic.</li></ul></li><li>• Research to Build and Present Knowledge</li></ul> <p><b>SPEAKING and LISTENING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas</li></ul> |

17-1S112

Created by: Mary Beaulieu, Old Mill Pond School, Palmer, Massachusetts  
and  
Paula Henson, 2007 Magic Tree House Teacher of the Year Knoxville, Tennessee



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Titanic facts are some of the most fascinating, yet tragic facts in maritime history. Perhaps it's because of the magnitude of the number of lives lost, or maybe because the tragic event could have so easily been avoided. Part of the intrigue could be due to the fact that the ship was the largest, most luxurious ship of its day and was thought to be unsinkable. Whatever the reasons, your students will be filled with curiosity about the magnificent ship and its disastrous maiden voyage after reading *Tonight on the Titanic*. Mary Pope Osborne whisks Jack and Annie away in the tree house for an adventurous yet sad adventure on the Titanic but will masterfully leave your students with a sense of hope as a young brother and sister are rescued with the help of Jack and Annie. Your students are bound to have many unanswered questions about the Titanic as the book will peak their interest and stir their curiosity. Use this opportunity to allow your students to conduct their own research as they uncover the mysteries of the Titanic.

Students will enjoy discovering additional information about the Titanic by generating their own questions, conducting their own research, and publishing them in an envelope book. This format of book-making will allow students to display facts on the back of each envelope in an accordion style book and insert the source cards with all of the research information on the inside of each envelope. They will enjoy decorating their envelope books with a Titanic theme and sharing them with classmates. More importantly students will research and investigate topics of their choice associated with the Titanic and demonstrate proper citing of sources.

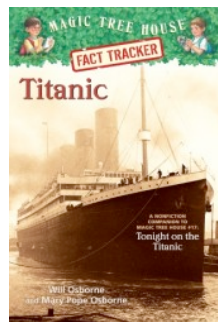
Follow the procedures below to help your students make their own accordion style envelope books to record, display, and store the unsinkable facts about the Titanic!

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Materials needed for each child:

- 7 envelopes (any color)
- 7 Magic Tree House Source Cards (master provided)
- 7 Unsinkable Facts Reproducible Pages (master provided)
- Glue Sticks
- Markers and/or Colored Pencils
- Small Piece of Ribbon
- Internet/Resource Materials/Fact Tracker, *Titanic*, the non-fiction companion to *Tonight on the Titanic*



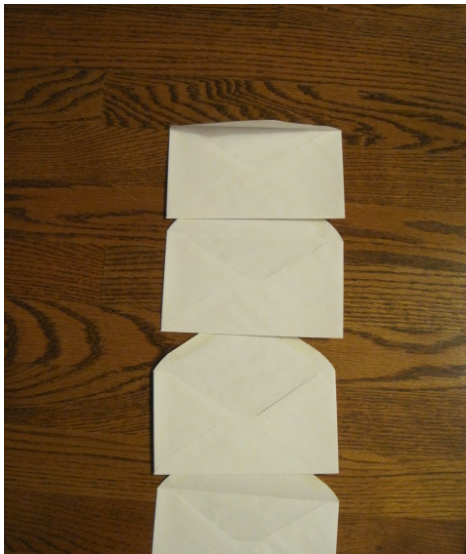
First ask your students to brainstorm any unanswered questions they might be wondering about after reading *Tonight on the Titanic*. Examples might include:

1. How many children were passengers on the Titanic?
2. Were there any pets aboard the ship?
3. What was the temperature of the ocean water the night the Titanic sank?
4. How many lifeboats were needed to save everyone on board?
5. What types of food were served to the first class passengers?
6. What did the children do for entertainment on the Titanic?
7. Are any of the survivors of the Titanic still alive today?

Ask them to choose seven questions that they would like to research and make a list to refer to later. Children can work individually or in pairs. This also works well as a “Reading Buddy” project if you teach younger students and they partner with an older group of students for reading. Their older “buddies” will be very helpful in assisting younger children with this project.

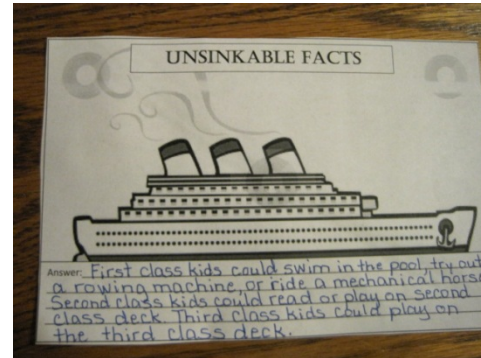
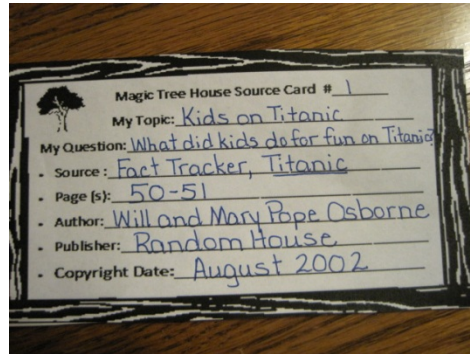
After seven unanswered questions have been decided on by students, present them with the procedures below as they assemble their envelope books

1. First, make copies of the Magic Tree House Source Cards and Unsinkable Facts Cards provided. Each child will need seven of each although you can change the number of research topics to any odd number. Even numbers do not work out for proper closure of the envelope books.
2. Next have students connect the envelopes in the following manner using glue sticks to attach the flap of one envelope to the back of another until all seven envelopes are connected. Your students should then cut out the Magic Tree House Source Cards and place them inside the envelopes.

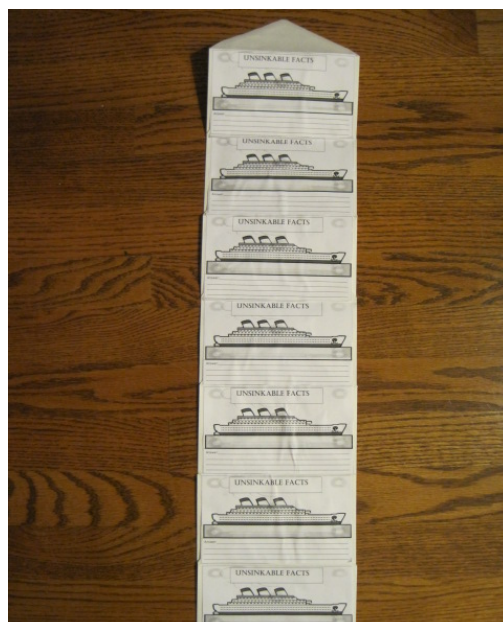


3. Ask your students to refer to the list of unanswered Titanic questions they made earlier. Have them remove the Magic Tree House Source Cards and fill in the blanks with the number order, topic, and question.

- Now the research begins as your students find the answers to each of their questions. Provide resource materials suggested in the materials list and allow your students to fill in the remainder of the source cards including the source, author, publisher, and copyright date. They should then record their findings on the Unsinkable Fact Cards

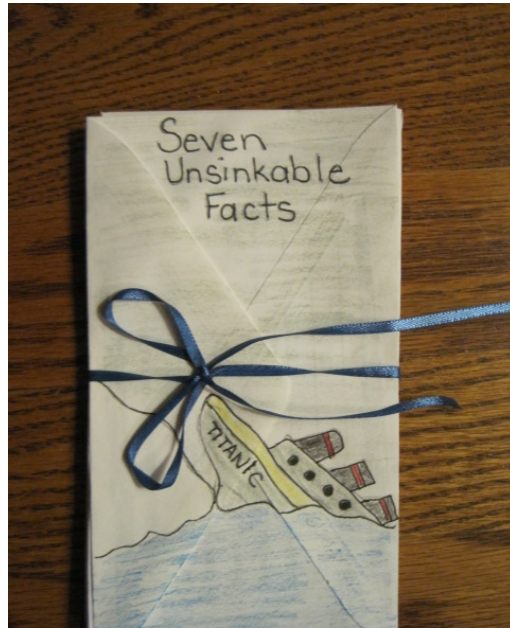
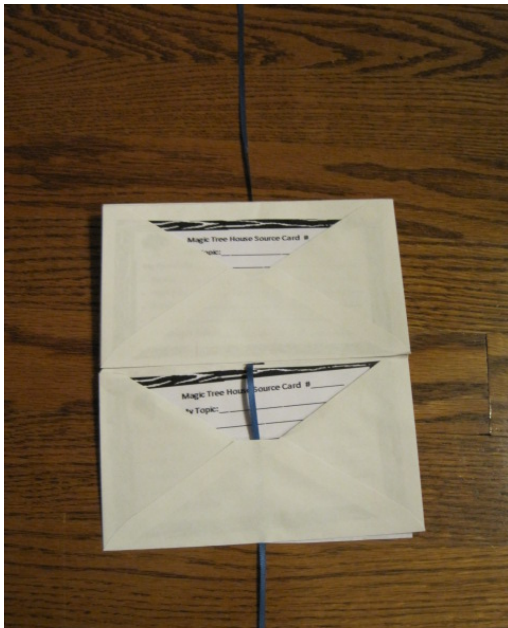


- Ask students to place the source cards in the envelopes in order and attach the answers to the questions that are recorded on the Unsinkable Facts Cards on the backs of the envelopes:





6. Fold accordion style, decorate the front flap of the first envelope and tie closed with a ribbon. The ribbon closure is made by cutting a small opening the width of the ribbon on top and bottom of the last envelope and running the ribbon through the slits.



7. Lastly, allow your students to share their unsinkable facts with classmates and display in a special area or center in the classroom.



**Magic Tree House Source Card #** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Topic:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

- **Source :** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Page (s):** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Author:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Publisher:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Copyright Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Magic Tree House Source Card #** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Topic:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

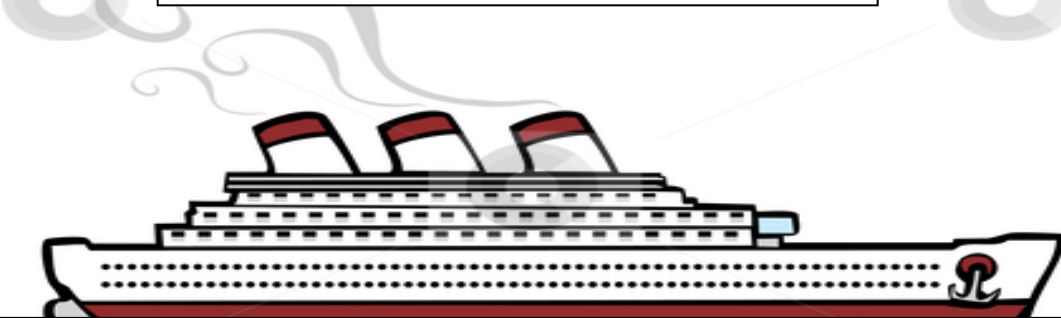
- **Source :** \_\_\_\_\_
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## Unsinkable Facts



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Unsinkable Facts



Answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
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