This year’s History Day theme was “Debate and Diplomacy in History”. I thought of some of the huge debates in recent US history. I made sure I didn’t pick any debate that was too ancient or it would be hard to find sources for. My two top choices were the debates of the purchase of Alaska and slavery. I picked those two because I think they had the most impact on history. Finally I chose the debate of the purchase of Alaska. I picked that debate because I already had some background information on it and I wanted to learn more about the purchase of Alaska. Also I picked this topic because I knew it wouldn’t be hard to find primary sources on. The Debate over purchasing Alaska or not is a huge topic in history. The purchase of Alaska was huge because the US gained gold and oil. The purchase is a very important part of US history.

The focus of my research is what the debate over purchasing Alaska was about and the actually purchase. I am also focusing on what the impact was of purchasing Alaska on American history. I found my resources in a variety of places such as the library, websites, and digital archives. I found all my books at the LMMS library. After reading the books and websites, I got a better understanding of what Americans really thought about the purchase of Alaska and learned some facts about the actually purchase. I also realized that the purchase of Alaska had a huge impact on the US. One of my good sources was the newspaper article from the 1800’s about the Alaska Debate. This source told me what the Americans really thought of Alaska.

I picked the category of website because I thought it would be the easiest way to display my information in a clean, neat, and cool way. With a website I can put many things on and it would still be neat. I can put pictures, information, and many other things with a website. The only materials I needed for a website was a computer and internet access. I used Weebly for my website, the first thing I did was select my background for my website and I made all the different tabs for the different things. Then I started putting in some of my pictures and then I put in all the information.

My topic of the debate of the purchase of Alaska fits this year’s theme completely. It fits the theme because the Alaska purchase was a huge debate in history. That debate was huge because if the US didn’t purchase Alaska who knows where the US would be now. From the purchase the US gained oil and gold. The US gained many valuables from the purchase of Alaska that is why it is considered a huge debate in history.