# Panama Canal Webquest Worksheet Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Use the websites to answer the following questions. Follow along with the headings and fully answer each question. Your answers should be fully answered in complete sentences.

## Your goal: To learn by the end of the webquest…

1. Why the canal was necessary.
2. How America came to build the canal.
3. The challenges faced by building the canal.
4. How the canal lock system works.

## **Canal History…** <http://www.smplanet.com/imperialism/joining.html>

1) What South American country owned the land that we now know as Panama?

2) What factors caused the French New Panama Canal Company to halt construction?

3) What did Theodore Roosevelt encourage in Panama after his $10 million offer was refused? How did he encourage this action?

1. How did mosquitoes prove to be a problem for the canal builders?
2. What challenges other than mosquitoes did the Americans have to overcome in building the canal?

### **Let Dirt Fly…** <http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/> 🡪 Use links from this page to answer the following questions.

1. Summarize in a few sentences the reasons that America chose to build a canal at great cost. (<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/whybuild.html>)
2. Summarize in a few sentences the reasons that America chose Panama instead of other sites. (<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/chooseroute.html>)
3. Summarize the work of William Gorgas and his colleagues and explain the importance of their medical breakthrough. (<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/bugwar.html>)
4. List the challenges of building the canal and their solutions. (<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/dirtfly.html>)
5. Identify at least two interesting tidbits of information and explain why those facts are surprising to you. (<http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Make-the-Dirt-Fly/didyouknow.html>)

### **Technology…**

1. In a few sentences, explain the lock system and why it was necessary to employ in the canal project. (<http://www.pancanal.com/eng/general/howitworks/index.html>) 🡪 Click on “Transit”, “Operation”, and “Dimensions” to examine how the lock system works.
2. Record a few descriptive sentences about your journey on the virtual tour through the canal. (<http://www.panamatours.com/Pancanal/Canal_pics.htm>) 🡪 Click on “Gallery: Crossing a Continent” and go through the different parts of the canal and take the quiz at the end.