

Middle East/N. Africa Country Research Project

Directions: you will research one Middle East/N Africa country that you would like to learn more about. We will spend some time in class doing research; however, the bulk of the project will be completed at home. You will research this country in depth and create a **Piktochart** of your country.

Steps to the project:

1. Research using books and approved web sites.

- a. A minimum of 5 total sources must be used and cited**

2. Complete the research information sheet (attached) with what you find through your resources. On your research chart, you need to include:

- a. Geographic information
- b. Political systems
- c. Economic system
- d. Social information
- e. Values/beliefs/customs
- f. Timeline of historical events, from first recorded history to present

this is a guide to help you research. If you find fun facts or other information during your research that you want to include, please do!

3. Create a Piktochart representing the information you gathered

- a. Includes minimal information based on each category researched
- b. Includes visuals representing the appropriate category (i.e.- geographical information= map of country/ political system= flag of country)

4. Participate in the Tour of Middle East/North Africa activity

- a. During this activity you will walk around and learn from your classmates' projects and take notes based on the information (gallery walk style)

Helpful websites:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/profileguide.html>
[http:// http://www.worldatlas.com/](http://http://www.worldatlas.com/) (Look up your country by clicking the Countries)
<http://www.pbs.org/search/?q=MIddle+East>
<http://geography.about.com/library/maps/blrafrica.html>
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east.html
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world>

BOTH GEOGRAPHY TEXTBOOKS ARE SUPER HELPFUL!

Name(s): _____

Country: _____

Due Date: _____

Rubric:**Research chart****/40**

*Completed, detailed, and thorough
(Complete sentences not required)*

Piktochart*Graphics/visuals***/10**

- *Images (at least 4) are appropriate*
- *A map and flag included*

*Design layout***/10**

- *Creative, colorful, and thoughtful*
- *Information not copied directly from research packet*
- *Neat*

*Expression of ideas***/20**

- *Research from **each** category is included*
- *Timeline of 7 historical events is included*
- *Accurately portrays country information*

*Quality of information and mechanics***/10**

- *Accurate facts, spelling, grammar*
- *List of sources*

Tour of Middle East/N Africa activity**/10**

Student completed gallery walk activity and took notes on at least five different Middle East/N Africa countries.

Extra credit**/10**

Bring in a traditional food item from your Middle East/N Africa nation! We will chow down during our gallery walk activity ☺

Geographical Information

Climate (seasons, weather extremes, weather patterns)

Elevations (what are the highest and lowest altitudes. You can find this in Geo Alive!)

Current Environmental Issues (drought, flooding, famine, lack of resources, abundance of resources)

Capital city

Major geographical features (Vegetation zones, major rivers or lakes, mountains, deserts)

Political Information

Type of Government (democracy, theocracy, dictatorship, monarchy, etc.)

Country Flag (include reasons for the symbols/colors of the flag)

Rulers (who is the ruler, do they have a congress/parliament, how people are represented)

Suffrage (who has the right to vote, what age, what gender, how many people vote, if it's easy to, etc)

Economic Information

Agriculture (what do they farm, where)

Industries (what are the most common forms of industry - automobiles, textiles, etc.)

Natural Resources

GDP (total GDP, also compared to other Middle Eastern nations, what this means, how did it get this way, etc)

Infrastructure (how developed is the country? How are the roads, hospitals, etc.?, examples)

Social Information

Timeline of Historic Events (at least 7, include history of colonization and how the country gained independence)

Literacy Rate (who reads, at what age to children go to school, at what age do they stop going to school, etc.)

Languages Spoken

Overall Health Care (infant mortality rate, HDI, birth rate, death rate)

Health Issues (Are there any major diseases or health problems?)

Values/Beliefs

Religions (percentage and importance to its followers)

Religious tensions (Are there problems between different religions? Explain)

Tour of Middle East/N Africa Gallery Walk

Directions: You will choose five different countries to compare/contrast with your country. Please write in complete sentences. **This exercise is meant for reflection and it is a chance to appreciate the hard work of your peers.** Example of an unacceptable answer: "The flags are different."

Country	Similarity with my country	Difference with my country
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		