Southwest Asia Demographics

OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES	GRADES
In this lesson students create a wall-sized matrix of key demographic data with graphic organizers of Southwest Asia countries. Students summarize the posted data and construct an infographic of Southwest Asia demographics as a final assessment. *Students will be able to...* • Explain terms associated with demographics including literacy, ethnicity, urban, rural. • Compare demographic data of the countries of Southwest Asia. • Summarize demographic data of Southwest Asia.	8th
	TIME
	3-4 class periods
	REQUIRED MATERIALS
	✓ Computer Internet access for students ✓ Colored pencils or markers ✓ Scissors and masking tape ✓ Handouts: "Ethnicity", "Literacy", "Language", "Money", "Religion" and "Population"; "Southwest Asia Country Demographic Forms"; "Matrix Headings"; "Southwest Asia Demographic Review"

MINNESOTA SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS & BENCHMARKS

Standard 3. Places have physical characteristics (such as climate, topography and vegetation) and human characteristics (such as culture, population, political and economic systems).
8.3.2.3.1 Use appropriate geographic tools to analyze and explain the distribution of physical and human characteristics of places.

Standard 5. The characteristics, distribution and migration of human populations on the earth's surface influence human systems (cultural, economic and political systems).
8.3.3.5.4 Describe the locations of human populations and the cultural characteristics of Southwest Asia and North Africa.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURE

Suggested Procedure

Preparation: The teacher should cut out Matrix Headings and post them for the wall-size matrix.

Day #1
Pre-assessment. Introduce the lesson using "Quizizz". Students will log into the website to take a five-questions quiz that introduces students to population terms. The quiz is public so search the database of quizzes for "Population data introd" (00929). The five questions are:
   • What is the study of population called?
   • What is the term for a social group that shares common cultural traits?
   • What is the ability to read and write called?
   • What word means relating to cities?

- Which one of these would tell you about the economics of a country?

Discuss terms that need further instruction: demography, ethnicity, literacy, urban vs. rural, and per capita income.

Divide the class into mixed-ability pairs and hand out "Southwest Asia Country Demographic Forms" providing one country form for each pair. [Alternatively, students can look up missing information—or they can look up all the information.] Student pairs will also need a copy of the graphic handouts for Ethnicity, Literacy, Language, Money (per capita income), Religion, and Population (urban and rural). If you have more than 15 student pairs, you can either triple up in groups or double up on countries. Model for students how to fill out each graphic form. (Per capita income hint: Since the graph has each line representing $4,000 several countries will exceed the stack. For those countries exceeding the per capita income of $56,000 have the students color the entire stack and label the band with the country's per capita income.)

Provide time for students to fill in the information for the country name section and complete the graphic organizers on ethnicity, literacy rate, language, per capita income, religion, and urban and rural using colored pencils or markers. (Students may use the colors of their country's flag to color in the country name.) Stress that the graphic representations of data must be precise since they will be the only resource the class will have for each country. Tips for the graphic organizers:
- Use markers for each country section and have students write population, area, independence year, and colonial ruler in large print so it can be read from the back of the room.
- Depending on students' skill levels you may need to provide instruction on how to fill in the religion circle graph.
- For ethnicity have students write the ethnic group in front of the person graphic. If a country has more than 5 ethnic groups, like Iran, have students split one group of people to make it work.

[Alternative: Students may utilize the CIA Factbook, and other websites provided, to find the information on their own. Some instruction finding information on the page will be needed. Encourage students to view the comparison map when finding information about area of the country and per capita income.]

When pairs finish creating their graphic organizers, have them cut their handouts along the dotted lines and then, using the matrix headings as a guide, neatly post their work on the wall to create a 15-country matrix.

Day 2
Using the information on the matrix students will complete the handout, "Southwest Asia Demographic Review". Have pairs circulate in front of the matrix, using it as a database to complete the data sheet.

When most pairs have completed their handout, have students return to their seats and review the answers with the class. Discuss the results and ask students to identify the characteristics that countries share the most and which characteristics are the most different.

Days 3-4
Students will work individually to create an infographic on Southwest Asia using the website, http://www.easel.ly/. Students may need a brief explanation of the infographic and how to construct it. The infographic on countries of Southwest Asia should meet the following requirements:
- Infographic should compare/contrast demographic information
- Infographic should cover at least 3 topics

Assessment

"Southwest Asia Demographic Review" handout
Infographic on Southwest Asia demographics

Website Resources
"Population data introd" from ccoller (00929) at Quizizz
http://quizizz.com
This website contains the pre-assessment quiz or another quiz can be constructed

CIA World Factbook
https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/
The website contains most demographic data information

"World Ethnic Groups" at Free Resources
http://siakhenn.tripod.com/ethnic.html
This website lists the ethnicity of each country

World Statesmen
http://www.worldstatesmen.org/#O
This website lists ethnicity for countries with no percentages given

Easelly
http://www.easel.ly
The website is used to create infographics