Chapter 11: Guide to Islam Webquest

INTRODUCTION
“…there is much that the world can learn from Islam. It is now practiced by one of every four people on Earth.” - ABC News

“The religion of Islam is growing faster than any other religion in the world.” – USA Today

“At this rate, Islam will surpass Christianity as the world’s largest religion by 2023.” - Mike Wallace, 60 Minutes

Why study Islam? Religion is more than believing in a god. It is a philosophy and way of life. Religion helps shape a person's view of the world. And currently, Islam is shaping billions of people’s world.

The main activity for this Webquest will be to use the Internet to explore Islam and gain a better understanding of the Muslim people. Let's get going!

PROCESS
You will visit websites provided in this packet to research Islam, and use this information to answer each task’s questions completely.

EVALUATION
You will be learning about one of the major religions of the world so have fun, but also take this seriously. Your answers will prove how hard you worked to explore Islam. This packet will be turned in at the end of class. The more notes you take, the better chance you have to get an A.

Please start with Task 1 and when you have completed your research and answered all of the questions, move ahead to Task 2 and so on.

Away we go…
Task #1 – The World’s Muslim Population

RESOURCES:
http://www.islamicpopulation.com/
http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/ ataglance/glance.shtml
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_by_country
http://islam.about.com/library/weekly/aa120298.htm

QUESTIONS:
1) What is highest estimate for the total number of Muslims that live in the world today?

2) List 10 countries who have a Muslim population of 86% or greater.

3) What country has the largest Muslim population?

4) How many Muslims are there in the United States?

NICE JOB!!! Now that we know about how many Muslims there are in our world and where many of them call home, we can now move ahead to Task 2.
Task # 2: Key Beliefs of Islam

REOURCES:
http://www.islam-guide.com/ch3-2.htm
http://www.religioustolerance.org/isl_intr.htm
http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/beliefs/six_articles.htm

QUESTIONS:
Summarize each of the key beliefs below in a COMPLETE sentence.
1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

TEACHINGS OF MUHAMMAD
Go to the following website and put 3 of Muhammad’s sayings in your own words.
1)

2)

3)
Task #3 – The Quran (Koran)

RESOURCES:
http://www.holidays.net/ramadan/muhamd.htm

QUESTIONS:
1) What does the Quran provide?

2) In what language(s) does the Quran exist? Why?

3) During which month was the Quran sent down from Heaven?

4) What did the angel Gabriel command Muhammad to do? What happened next?
Task #4 – Five Pillars of Faith

RESOURCES:
http://www.holidays.net/ramadan/pillars.htm
http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/practices/fivepillars.shtml

QUESTIONS:
1) List and explain the 5 Pillars of Faith.
   •
   •
   •
   •
   •

2) Why are they important?

3) Why is cheating on the 5 Pillars impossible?

4) Compare the 5 Pillars with similar activities in other religions.
Task # 5 – Ramadan

RESOURCES:
http://www.holidays.net/ramadan/story.htm
http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/holidays/ramadan.htm
http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/practices/ramadan_1.shtml

QUESTIONS:
1) What is Ramadan?

2) What restraints are placed on Muslims during Ramadan?

3) What can destroy the good acquired during Ramadan?

4) Why is the 27th day of Ramadan significant?

5) What happens when Ramadan ends?

6) What are the 3 reasons Ramadan is important?

7) Why is easier to do good during Ramadan?

Excellent! You're almost done! Move to Task 6!!!
Task #6 – Fun Facts

You have done a great job researching Islam! Now you and your partner can surf the web to learn more about Islam. Use the links below to make a list of 10 different facts about Islam you think are especially interesting. Take this opportunity to learn about other holidays, art, music, medicine – whatever interests you about Islam.

Surfs up!

RESOURCES:
http://religionfacts.com/islam/index.htm
http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/muslimlife/
http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/people/features/world_religions/islam.shtml
http://www.islamicity.com/education/understandingislamandmuslims/
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html (Click Islam in the list on the left side)
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/muslims/ (Click Major Themes or Frequently Asked Questions)

List 5 interest facts you learned from the websites above.
1)

2)

3)

4)

5)
CONCLUSION

CONGRATULATIONS! You have just explored and researched one of the major religions of the world. In addition to learning about Islam, you have learned that the Internet can be a valuable research tool. Isn’t it amazing?

Way to go!