The Renaissance: An Investigation

Guess what, when you’re done with this project, you will all know and be able to do the following:

**\*Students will understand the interactions and relationship between human societies and their physical environment.**

**\*Students will understand cultural and intellectual developments and interactions among societies.**

**\*Students will understand fundamental economic principles and ways in which economies are shaped by geographic and human factors.**

**\*Students will understand how societies have influenced and been influenced by scientific developments and technological developments.**

This Investigation will be done in groups of 2-3. I’ll assign the groups. Your group’s task will be to investigate answers to the following “Big Idea” questions:

1. In what way(s) were people asleep prior to the ‘rebirth’ of the renaissance?
2. Why did the renaissance begin in the 15th century and not sooner or later?
3. What were they woken up to? What was “reborn”?

In order to effectively answer the questions above, you should focus your research on these smaller, more specific, questions below:

1. Explain how social, cultural, political and economic factors of Renaissance era Italy were shaped by the physical environment (geographic causes)
2. Analyze ways in which trade contributed to change in renaissance era Italy (economic causes)
3. Analyze how art and literature both shape and were shaped by renaissance society (effects)
4. Analyze how new Humanist Ideas impacted science and culture in renaissance society (social causes)
5. Analyze the extent to which the Renaissance changed Italian society as a whole. Did it have a broad impact? Small but important? Large and important? (effects)
6. How did the role of the church change in Renaissance era Italy? (effects)

The product that your group will create will be:

* A documentary film titled, “The Renaissance Explored/Explained”

“Dang Mr. K! Day two and we get a massive research project?!?!”

Yep. But this will take time, and we’ll work through it together. You will also have both **formative** and **summative** “check points” along the way. The list of tasks to complete is below with **formative** assessments in red and **summative** assessments in blue.

Plan of Attack aka a Checklist of things To Do:

1. Divide into groups (I’ll divide you)
2. Assign Roles and Responsibilities
   1. Manager: Keeps people on task! Organizes the team. Uploads Docs to Google drive
   2. Lead researcher: Takes the lead on source/information finding
   3. Graphic Designer: Takes the lead on putting it all together
3. Complete the “Things I need to know to answer….” Sheet for question #1 above
4. Find, cite, and analyze 1 Primary source per question that can be used in your documentary
   1. Analyze the documents based on the OPVL model:

O. Origin

P. Purpose

V. Value

L. Limitations

* 1. Complete “Document Analysis” Form for every document

1. Transfer this to a google drive folder that can be shared with the group
2. Repeat steps 3 and 4 above for all other questions 2-6
3. Write the script
4. Create the film
5. Complete Self and Peer Evaluation