Understanding the Enlightenment

Historians like to name stuff. Like the renaissance, the enlightenment’s name carries meaning. Some “Essential Questions” that will focus our investigation are:

1. How did enlightenment philosophy encourage political change?
2. Are humans naturally self-less and good or naturally selfish and evil? If the latter, then how do we have a functioning society?
3. What is the role of government in society?

Now that we’ve got that down, you need to get with a group and create a summary PIKTOCHART <https://piktochart.com/> covering the following:

* Thinker’s main ideas
* Why New? What’s fresh about the ideas?
* Impact on concepts/approaches to governance or society
* View on human nature implicit or explicit in ideas?
* A great quote or two that you find interesting or insightful

Groups will address the following thinkers:

1. Jean Jacques Rousseau
2. Thomas Hobbes
3. John Locke
4. Voltaire
5. Immanuel Kant

The **GOAL** of this activity is to develop your synthesis skills as well as gain insight into the major philosophies of the enlightenment to then apply that knowledge to subsequent historical contexts and events…and to make a pretty sick poster in the process ☺