

## Creating a Database: Social Studies – Africa and Technology

<p><b>Overview</b></p>	<p>Students will work in groups of 3 to design a ZohoWiki (through a newly created Google Mail account) page about one country in Africa. After completion, each group will present and share the newly created webpage with the class.</p>
<p><b>Objectives</b></p>	<p>From this assignment, students will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explore and describe similarities and differences in the ways groups, societies and cultures address similar human needs and concerns</li> <li>2. Use appropriate resources, data sources, and geographic tools such as atlases, databases, grid systems, charts, graphs and maps to generate, manipulate, and interpret information.</li> </ol> <p>With the help of Technology, the students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Use technology to locate, evaluate, and collect information from a variety of sources.</li> <li>b) Use technology tools to process data and report results.</li> <li>c) Evaluate and select new information resources and technological innovations based on the appropriateness to specific tasks.</li> </ol> <p>This activity is the culminating activity for a Social Studies Unit on Africa. Students will do research on their African country. Then they will take the research they have done and compile a database on the entire continent. After compiling the database, students will have a presentation day, which parents will be invited to, in order for students to display their sites.</p>
<p><b>Materials</b></p>	<p>Each group of students will create a Google mail account which will only be used for this project. They will be able to log onto Zoho Wiki to edit and create their page. Each student will have a computer of their own to work with.</p>
<p><b>Procedures</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each group of three students will be assigned an email account through Google mail that will be used to sign them into Zoho Wiki. Once everyone is assigned their email address, we will explore Zoho Wiki so that the students can see how it works.</li> <li>2. Students will need to do about three days of research on their assigned country. Students should find information in the following categories: location, type of government, economy, population, climate, natural resources, type of</li> </ol>

	<p>geology, religion, language, cultures, holidays, points of interest, education, and the date the country was founded.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. As students are researching, they are required to site the websites where they find information. They will have a section in their wiki just for references.</li> <li>4. Students will make a section for each of the categories listed above and enter a paragraph or two (depending on the amount of research found on the topic) on their Zoho Wiki page.</li> <li>5. Students can add pictures of plants, animals, flags, or anything else they find interesting about their country.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Evaluation</b></p>	<p>Students will be evaluated by their teammates and I will also observe how they worked together. The content about their country will be the largest portion of their grade. For the database part of this project, each of the categories described in the procedure should have been researched by the students. The final part of the students' grades will be based on the presentation they give to the class and the parents who attend the session. As long as these minimal criteria are met, students will receive full points.</p>

Adapted from <http://www.lessonplanspage.com/CISSCreatingADatabaseOnAfrica45.htm>