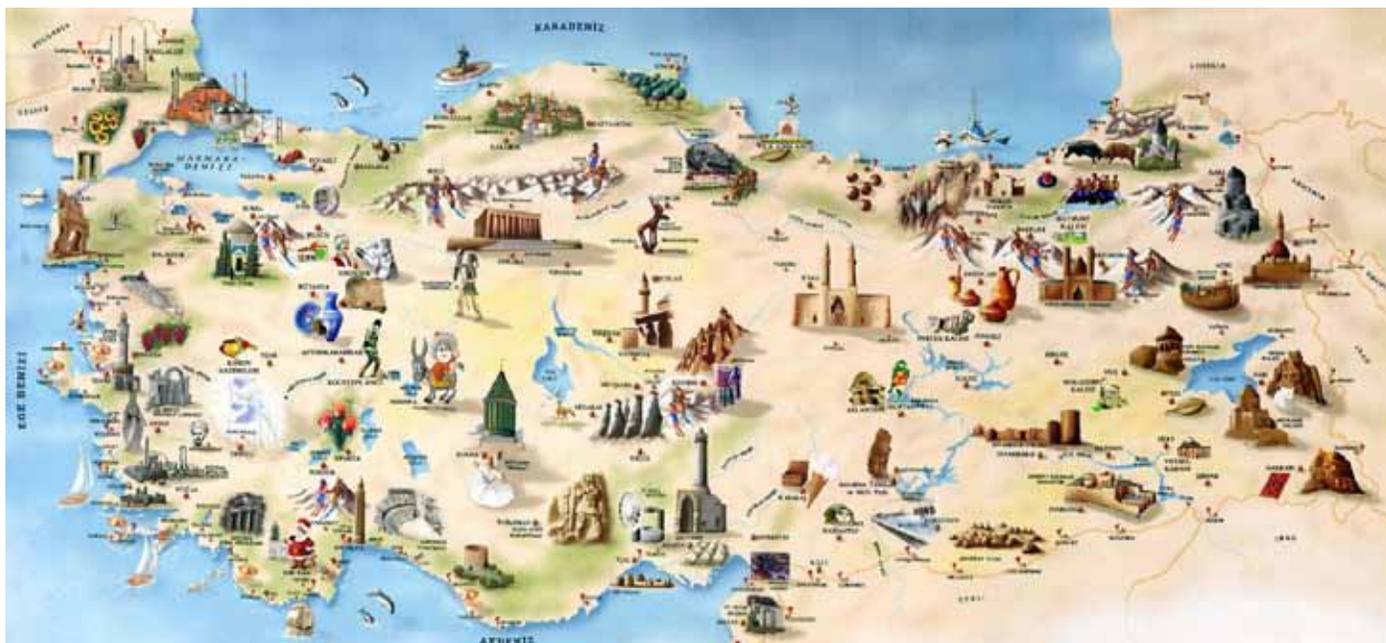


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## East Meets West



WWW.TURKIYEBURLARI.GOV.TR

- Map It: Turkey
- Map It: Turkey Today
- KidsPost Reprint: “Syrian refugee kids show the effects of war in their artwork”
- Discussion Questions: The Effects of War on Children, Then and Now
- Word Find: From Constantinople to Ankara
- Teachers Notes: Countries and Culture in *The Post*
- Answers: From Constantinople to Ankara

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Europe and Asia meet and live in Turkey. Traditional and modern, home to bustling spice bazaars, international corporations, and productive farms and rural areas; amazing architecture and mosaics, homes where coffees and teas are served with Turkish delights, Turkey engages both its heritage and its future. Today's Turkey



encourages tourism and hosts more than 2.9 million registered Syrians, the world's largest refugee population.

In addition to its history that provides many windows on peoples, currents of change, amity and enmity, its current events are complex. Many questions await students: Should Turkey be admitted to the European Union? Has Turkey served Syrian refugees well by offering camps with basic needs and education while being paid to deter their passage to European countries? What role on the world stage does its president Recep Tayyip Erdogan play?

Use maps to learn about Turkey from different pieces of information. How do the Mediterranean, Aegean and Black seas, the Dardanelles and Bosphorus straits influence its past and present? How has the geography and climate determined a way of life? Whether looking at Troy, Antioch and Ephesus, or Istanbul, there are stories to be found.

A KidsPost article and activities to update it encourage students to think about children who have been forced from their homes. Use the terms in the word find, "From Constantinople to Ankara," to assign mini-research projects — a kind of puzzle that when the piece that each student has researched is brought together a fuller picture of one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited regions will emerge.

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# Turkey



WWW.STATE.GOV



OZAN KOSE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

- Continent:**  
Europe and Asia
- Official Name:**  
Republic of Turkey
- Form of Government:**  
Parliamentary Democracy
- Capital:** Ankara
- Area:** 302,535 Square Miles  
(783,562 Square Kilometers)
- Population:**  
81,619,392
- Official Language:**  
Turkish
- Money:**  
Turkish Lira

# Turkey Today

One can learn a great deal about a country by looking at maps. Four maps of contemporary Turkey reveal information about its geography, topography, agriculture and economy, weather and climate, and population.

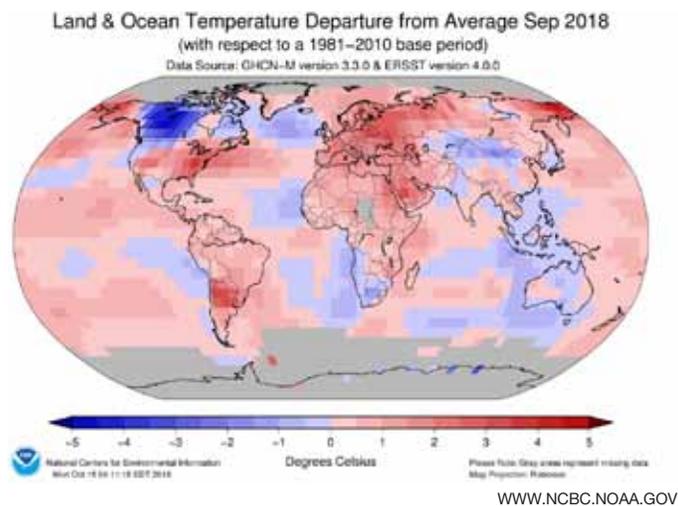
A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_



C. \_\_\_\_\_

D. \_\_\_\_\_



1. Label each map indicating the kind of information it provides.
2. In what ways may Turkey's geographic location influence its
  - a. Climate
  - b. Cuisine
  - c. Culture
  - d. Relation with other countries
  - e. Economy

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## KidsPost

# Syrian refugee kids show the effects of war in their artwork

*More than 1 million are living in Turkey; many want to go home.*

• Originally Published January 19, 2016

When 9-year-old Ilaf Hassun drew a picture of her home she scrawled a simple house, trees and clouds with smiling faces. Then in thick red pen, added the figure of a woman clutching her child, who had died.

Syria's conflict has left hundreds of thousands dead, has pushed millions more into exile, and has had a profound effect on children who lost their homes or became caught up in the war.

Ilaf and her family are living with nearly 3,000 other people — 1,000 of them younger than 12 — in Yayladagi Refugee Camp, a former tobacco factory just across the border from Syria in eastern Turkey. Refugees are not allowed to work outside the camps, but Ilaf's father left and is working illegally. He rarely visits.

She plays with the other children, but her artwork points to the emotional scars borne by many of the 2.3 million Syrian refugees living in Turkey, more than half of them children. Providing sheltered places that are free from violence is one of the challenges facing Turkish authorities.

A Reuters photo story from refugee camps in the region shows the children at play and displaying their drawings. The activities are normal:

A girl skips rope; others weave; teenage boys play soccer. But some drawings reveal troubling thoughts.

"We have to find a way to let these children forget the war and what they experienced," said Ahmet Lutfi Akar, president of the Turkish Red Crescent Society. (The Red Crescent is an aid organization similar to the American Red Cross.)

"These [children] grow up in camps. We have to teach this generation that problems can be solved without fighting, and we have to erase the

scars of war."

The Turkish government, aided by the United Nations and nongovernmental organizations, has set up 27 "kid-friendly" centers across the country, used by an estimated 100,000 children for classes and other activities.

The centers are the latest effort by authorities to ramp up their humanitarian response and provide long-term care for refugee communities unlikely to be able to return home for years. Beginning at



UMIT BEKTAS/REUTERS

**Rahaf Hasan, 10, who is living at Midyat refugee camp in Turkey, holds a drawing last month of her home in Syria. Conflict in that Middle Eastern country has left hundreds of thousands dead and forced millions out of their homes.**

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age 9, the Arabic-speaking children are taught Turkish to help them integrate into the country.

“When they arrive in a different country, they have difficulties living in a different culture, in a world

speaking a different language,” said Meryem Dolgun, a youth worker. “They have self-confidence problems, fear. Some think they are worthless.”

“They draw tanks, warplanes, dead people, wounded children, crying mothers. Drawings are the evidence of their trauma, the reflection of their inner worlds,” Dolgun said.

The need to provide schooling and a future for Syrian children in Turkey has become a high priority. Turkish officials say they have spent more than \$8 billion responding to the Syrian crisis.

With just 330,000 places available in camps and with many refugees opting to beg or work illegally in Turkey’s major cities, only a fraction of children are receiving help. Yet the system is already creaking.

In November, Turkey’s disaster management agency urged Syrians to stay in camps in their own country rather than cross into Turkey.

Many Syrian children in Turkish camps dream not of Europe or even of staying in Turkey, but of returning home.

“If they go back home, they will catch happiness. This is their motto,” Dolgun said.

One such child is 6-year-old Gays Cardak. He says he will use what he learns at school in Yayladagi to help his country, shattered by nearly five years of war.

“I’m going to be a doctor and an engineer,” he said. “We the engineers will rebuild Syria, and I’ll take the [soldiers] to hospital.”

— Reuters



UMIT BEKTAS/REUTERS

The writing on Meryem’s drawing reads: “I want my home. I miss you Syria.”



UMIT BEKTAS/REUTERS

Meryem Mahmo, 14, shows a drawing of her home during a carpet weaving workshop in Midyat refugee camp.

# The Effects of War on Children, Then and Now

1. What is a “refugee”?
2. Why are children from Syria in a camp in Turkey?
3. Locate Syria and Turkey on a map. What part of Turkey is most likely to have the most refugee camps? Provide three reasons why this might be true.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.
4. Why has the government of Turkey set up these camps?
5. Describe the subject of the children’s artwork.
6. What do the children reveal through their art projects?
7. This KidsPost article was written by a Reuters reporter. Reuters is an international news agency in about 150 different countries. The Washington Post subscribes to Reuters to use their news stories, photographs and video footage.
  - a. Why would The Post subscribe to Reuters?
  - b. Review today’s newspaper. How many news briefs and articles and photographs have Reuters credit lines? From which countries do these stories originate?
8. When did the observation and interviews take place? What value do older articles have?
9. Find two to four reliable sources to locate current information about Syrian refugee children in Turkey. And information on the current point of view of the Turkish government about providing housing, food and basic necessities and education for so many.
  - a. What do these sources report about the refugee situation in Turkey?
    - b. What do these sources report about the Turkish government’s handling of refugees and their needs?
    - c. What views towards hosting refugees does the Turkish public hold?

# From Constantinople to Ankara

Find the 30 terms associated with the history of Turkey from the Byzantine Empire to contemporary times. The words will be found reading right to left, left to right, up and down and on the diagonal.

K	E	M	A	L	S	U	I	S	O	D	O	E	H	T
X	H	A	V	E	N	I	T	N	A	Z	Y	B	E	J
J	A	M	E	M	P	I	R	E	Y	E	S	L	A	U
G	E	M	U	S	L	I	M	C	E	A	P	Q	G	S
L	A	W	Q	A	I	M	A	G	R	O	T	C	L	T
A	G	E	S	L	O	R	U	A	N	T	U	R	E	I
M	R	S	O	T	C	F	K	I	X	T	R	U	N	N
E	E	T	M	O	E	N	T	C	Z	O	K	S	A	I
M	E	T	E	R	A	N	K	O	N	M	S	A	I	A
M	K	H	M	I	A	R	K	N	E	A	Y	D	T	N
O	T	I	S	T	A	N	B	U	L	N	M	E	S	H
S	R	A	S	B	A	R	A	N	A	I	N	O	I	H
A	T	N	I	T	A	L	T	E	G	Y	P	T	R	T
I	O	L	I	V	E	I	A	I	R	Y	S	O	H	A
C	O	R	T	H	O	D	O	X	S	A	E	S	C	M

The following words and names are to be found in the word find.

- |                |         |           |          |            |
|----------------|---------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Ankara         | Crusade | Icon      | Law      | Refugee    |
| Arabs          | Eagle   | Istanbul  | Mosaic   | Roman      |
| Asia           | Empire  | Jews      | Mosque   | Syria      |
| Byzantine      | Egypt   | Justinian | Muslim   | Theocracy  |
| Christian      | Greek   | Kemal     | Ottoman  | Theodosius |
| Constantinople | Haven   | Latin     | Orthodox | Turks      |

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## Countries and Culture in *The Post*

Among the many approaches you may take to engage students in the study of a country or region of the world, include the use of media. The Washington Post provides opportunities for current events, profiles and interviews with leaders. The World section covers the entire globe. The Food supplement adds recipes and influences on cuisine. In addition, Retropolis, Global Opinions and other features include historic, cultural and other perspectives.

### **News or A Section** [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)

- Do an e-Replica search for the country, region, leaders, specific places and events.
- Watch for follow-up stories after big news happenings.
- Don't neglect the news briefs. Find news briefs, then ask students to brainstorm questions that still need to be answered about the event or what takes place next.
- One small article or news brief may lead to larger follow-up stories.

Announcements from the U.S. Department of State and/or the Embassy of Turkey may be summarized in a news brief. For example, in September 2018 the State Department announced that newly appointed Special Representative for Syria Engagement Ambassador James Jeffrey and Special Envoy for Syria and Near Eastern Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary Joel Rayburn met with their Turkish counterparts. Watch for follow-up announcements and news reports of U.S. involvement in resolving the conflict and rebuilding Syria, including economic and financial news in Business.

### **Metro or Local News Section** [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/?utm\\_term=.39146c8418ee](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/?utm_term=.39146c8418ee)

- D.C. is a cosmopolitan center with people from throughout the world living here. They are embassy officials and staffs; restaurant owners, chefs and staff; they are small business owners and immigrants who have found a safe home. Look for their stories in the Metro section and Sunday Magazine.
- Interview students who were born in different countries or whose families have ties to other lands. Use Post profiles for models. Short or long profiles add the opportunity to engage with one another. Use a school display case to showcase maps with stars where students have homelands.
- If you have the technology, produce podcasts of students' interviews for your school or class website. Prepare "Everyone Has a Story" interviews, Q&A or profiles.
- Skim the photographs found in this section. What part of the story do they tell? Do they draw you into reading any of the stories?

### **World News Page(s)** [www.washingtonpost.com/world](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world)

- In the WORLD section, click on "Foreign Correspondents" to be introduced to The Post's 29 foreign correspondents in 20 bureaus around the globe. All students could read the short introductions.
- Students could be paired to read the full story of each foreign correspondent and bureau chief. Locate their base on a map. What education, language fluency and awards has the journalist achieved? What work background does this person bring to the job? Read three or more of the latest stories by this reporter. What do students learn about this country or part of the world?

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- Current leaders are often covered. Students could be asked to read an article in which a leader is the main focus or source of information. Compare and contrast to what is stated about and by that leader on that country's website. Do their images project differently?

### **Food Supplement** [https://www.washingtonpost.com/food/?utm\\_term=.a66ebff75828](https://www.washingtonpost.com/food/?utm_term=.a66ebff75828)

Countries and regions have their unique or specialty foods. The Post Food writers and editors fill the supplement and online pages with cuisine both local and international and often feature particular spices, fruits and vegetables.

- After students have read about their country, review the Food section to locate recipes using a fruit, vegetable or spice grown in that country.
- Be sure to check out "Dinner in Minutes" online. Recent suggestions included Spicy Tahini Pasta, Za'atar Chicken with Chickpeas and Yogurt and Swedish Turkey Meatballs.
- In addition to the recipes suggested in the Food section, check out the country's website or official travel website. For example, in Autumn Turkey HOME provided traditional Turkish Pumpkin Recipes for the Fall Season (<https://hometurkey.com/en/blog/traditional-turkish-pumpkin-recipes-for-the-fall-season>).
- Plan a menu, then locate items you will need in the grocery advertisements found in Wednesday's Food print and e-Replica editions.

### **Travel Section** <https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel>

- Are there certain times of year when festivals or observances draw people to the country or particular area? The Travel section and supplement can provide helpful information and a starting point for further research.
- As the 20th anniversary of Troy being added to the UNESCO World Heritage list, 2018 was celebrated as "Year of Troy" in Turkish culture and tourism. There are more than a dozen additional UNESCO World Heritage sites in Turkey. Have students locate them, summarize their significance and plan a trip there. Check The Post's archives for ideas.

### **Acts of Faith, "Religion Headlines That Matter"** <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/>

- What faith(s) are observed in the country, countries or region? In addition to studying their tenets, check The Post's Acts of Faith section to locate current events or people practicing the faith in the selected area.
- A search for "religion" on The Post's website will garner many articles. Students will need to exercise their skills to determine which are most related to their topic.

In addition to these quick suggestions, read through our monthly online curriculum guides found at *nie.washingtonpost.com* for more lesson ideas, handouts/reproducibles, resources and Post reprints. We have featured China, Mexico and Japan in addition to this guide that focuses on Turkey.

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# Answers: From Constantinople to Ankara

K	E	M	A	L	S	U	I	S	O	D	O	E	H	T
X	H	A	V	E	N	I	T	N	A	Z	Y	B	E	J
J	A	M	E	M	P	I	R	E	Y	E	S	L	A	U
G	E	M	U	S	L	I	M	C	E	A	P	Q	G	S
L	A	W	Q	A	I	M	A	G	R	O	T	C	L	T
A	G	E	S	L	O	R	U	A	N	T	U	R	E	I
M	R	S	O	T	C	F	K	I	X	T	R	U	N	N
E	E	T	M	O	E	N	T	C	Z	O	K	S	A	I
M	E	T	E	R	A	N	K	O	N	M	S	A	I	A
M	K	H	M	I	A	R	K	N	E	A	Y	D	T	N
O	T	I	S	T	A	N	B	U	L	N	M	E	S	H
S	R	A	S	B	A	R	A	N	A	I	N	O	I	H
A	T	N	I	T	A	L	T	E	G	Y	P	T	R	T
I	O	L	I	V	E	I	A	I	R	Y	S	O	H	A
C	O	R	T	H	O	D	O	X	S	A	E	S	C	M