Africa Countries Standards of Living vs. USA

Students will be investigating mortality rates, literacy rates and caloric intake of countries in Africa compared to the United States. They will then drawing conclusions as to reasons behind the varying trends (resources, landforms, etc).

Label a map of Africa by region North, West/Central, East, South

Using the provided data below create an excel chart.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Life Expectancy Male | Life Expectancy Female | Infant mortality | Literacy Rate | Daily Caloric Intake |
|  | (at birth, 2006) | (at birth, 2006) | (per 1, 000 births) |  |  |
| Congo (Kinshasa) | 50 | 52.99 | 88.6 | 65.50% | 2, 183 |
| Egypt | 68.8 | 73.9 | 31.3 | 57.70% | 3,356 |
| Ethiopia | 47.9 | 50.2 | 93.6 | 42.70% | 1,858 |
| Kenya | 49.8 | 48.1 | 59.3 | 85.10% | 2,155 |
| Libya | 74.5 | 79 | 23.7 | 82.60% | 3,337 |
| Morocco | 68.6 | 73.4 | 40.2 | 51.70% | 3,098 |
| Nigeria | 46.5 | 47.7 | 97.1 | 68.00% | 2,714 |
| Rwanda | 46.3 | 48.4 | 89.6 | 70.40% | 2,071 |
| South Africa | 43.2 | 42.2 | 60.7 | 86.40% | 2,962 |
| Zimbabwe | 40.4 | 38.2 | 51.7 | 90.70% | 2,004 |
| United States | 75 | 80.8 | 6.4 | 99.00% | 3,754 |

Create 1 graph including the Life expectancy rates (male and female) as well as infant mortality rate for each country.

Create a second graph using the countries and literacy rates. (Be sure to change your axis to %)

Create a third graph including the countries and caloric intake.

Lastly, record the average from each column. You do not need to include the United States.

When you have completed your graphs answer the following questions.

1. What was the average male life expectancy rate in Africa compared to the United States?
   1. Which region was the country with the highest/lowest mortality rates located in?
   2. Brainstorm a list of possible geographic and social issues that may have caused these large discrepancies
2. What was the average female life expectancy rate in Africa compared to the United States?
   1. Which region was the highest and lowest female mortality rates located in?
   2. Brainstorm a list of possible geographic and social issues that may have caused these large discrepancies
   3. Does male v. female life expectancy rates follow the pattern of the United States?
3. Explain in which country you would like to live based on mortality rates. Defend your reasoning.
4. Using the graphs explain which country has the highest literacy rates. Which region is this country located in?
5. Predict why you think they have high literacy rates in this country.
6. What was the average daily caloric intake in Africa? How does this compare to the United States?
7. Look at infant mortality rates in Nigeria compared to literacy rates and caloric intake. What conclusions can you draw about children, education and sources of food?
   1. How does this information compare to Ethiopia?
8. Predict some cultural differences between Africans and Americans that would cause the discrepancy in caloric intake.

Next you will get into groups of 4 and divide up the regions of Africa; North, West/Central, East, South and investigate chapters 21-24 in your textbook to correct your answers from above. What did you predict correct and what other factors that affected mortality rates, literacy and caloric intake did you miss? Each group will present their findings.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Africa v. United States | Yes | no |
| Countries in column A |  |  |
| Average for each column =(cell 10-19) /10 |  |  |
| Bar graph 1- mortality rates |  |  |
| Bar graph 2- calories |  |  |
| Bar graph 3- literacy rates |  |  |
| Changed axis to % on literacy rates graph |  |  |

Comments:

Holt, Reinhart, Winston. World Geography Today. Ch. 21-24 (online resources: <http://go.hrw.com/hrw.nd/gohrw_rls1/pKeywordResults?keyword=SW3%20TOC> )