

Date: _____

Geography of the Middle East

“The Far East”

- ★ Region between Europe and Asia
- ★ Northern Africa is sometimes included
- ★ It is part of the Arab World- shares language & Islam

Geography Video Questions:

- 1) The Middle East Region has many cultures but most people are of Arabic Heritage.
- 2) What 3 continents intersect in the Middle East? Africa, Asia, Europe
- 3) What 3 religions started in the Middle East? Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

Crossroads of the World

- ★ Between 3 Continents
- ★ Connected by trade routes both land and sea
- ★ Important region for military reasons because of the vital sea routes.

Major Landforms

- ★ Plateaus- Anatolian & Iranian
- ★ Mountain Ranges- Zagros & Elbruz
- ★ Much of the region is desert- Rub' Al-Khali

Water Sources

- ★ Rivers- Tigris & Euphrates, Nile in Africa
- ★ Seas- Mediterranean, Red, Arabian, Black
- ★ Gulfs- Persian

Names for the Middle East

- ★ Mesopotamia
- ★ Fertile Crescent
- ★ Cradle of Civilization

Resources

- ★ Water is vital, but scarce. Civilizations develop near water.
- ★ Oil- unevenly distributed; some countries wealthy & others poor.
- ★ Because of oil this region is vital economically
- ★ Other resources- salt, phosphate, copper

Graph Question:

- 1) Which nation has more oil than any other in the Middle East?
Saudi Arabia