Genocide Research Project

Introduction:
We have just finished reading Night by Elie Wiesel, a first hand account of the genocide against European Jews that has been labeled The Holocaust. We have been shocked and saddened by the things we have read in this memoir, but the reality is that things like the Holocaust – genocides – are happening still today and have happened in recent history since the end of the Holocaust in 1945. This angers us, and in response to that anger, we can use the power of knowledge and information to help Elie Wiesel’s legacy continue. As Wiesel says in his “A God Who Remembers” essay for NPR, “our task is to inform. But information must be transformed into knowledge, knowledge into sensitivity and sensitivity into commitment.”

Essential Questions:
How and why do genocides happen, and what can we do about it?
How do you structure a research paper?

Task:
Write a research paper about a genocide that has happened in recent history that explains its causes and effects. You may research in a group, but everyone must write their own original paper that will be uploaded to your digital portfolio.
In small groups, create a public service announcement (video or print advertisement campaign) that informs people about what we can do to prevent genocide -- or the ideas that cause genocide.

Four C’s:
Communication
Collaboration
Creation
Critical Thinking

Common Core Standards:
W.9-10.2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
W.9-10.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically
W.9-10.7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
SL.9-10.5. Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.
Genocide Project Preliminary Research:
Search for “Genocides in recent history” on Google. See which results come up. List on the chart the country and time period of each genocide that you discover. Try to get a general gist of what happened in each genocide and record that as well. You will choose your final paper topic based on this preliminary research.

**Genocides in Recent History:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>What happened</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>