

Directions: The following are descriptions of different aspects of the Byzantine Empire’s culture. Use these descriptions to draw a picture in the box provided that illustrates what you read about each aspect of Byzantine culture. You must use color and you must draw to the best of your ability. Stick figures are acceptable!

<p style="text-align: center;">CITY LIFE</p> <p>Constantinople was a bustling place. Down the main street through Constantinople merchant stalls lined the streets. Products from the most distant corners of Asia, Africa, and Europe passed through those stalls. Everywhere food stands filled the air with the smell of their delicacies, while acrobats and street musicians performed.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">EDUCATION</p> <p>Children of the Byzantine Empire were educated much like the Greeks and Romans. Boys were educated at school where they primarily learned to read, write, arithmetic and composition. Memorization of Greek literature was very important to the Byzantines (virtually unknown in Europe at the time). Women actively participated in the intellectual life, even though they were schooled at home by tutors, they greatly contributed to the intellectual culture.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">LITERATURE</p> <p>Literature of this time was mostly non-fiction practical texts written by both men and women. These books consisted of Hymns and devotionals (religion), public administration guides, texts devoted to medicine and scientific discoveries, and small amounts of encyclopedic work (gathering of knowledge into one place). The majority of the people in the Byzantine Empire were literate.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">ART</p> <p>Art produced during the Byzantine Empire was much different than the art of the Greeks and Romans due to the importance of Christianity in Byzantine culture. Art reflected Christian beliefs. Icons are the lasting artistic contribution of the Byzantine Empire. Icons are images of Christ, the Virgin Mary (especially Virgin Mary and Child) or of a Particular Saint. These were displayed in churches and homes for veneration (respect, worship, and adoration)</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;">ARCHITECTURE</p> <p>The Byzantines, in keeping with their cultural heritage, used the columns of Greece and arches of Rome, but they also used new architectural ideas to be able to place an onion shaped dome on top of a rectangle building. The emperor Justinian was responsible for a huge public building program. Justinian was especially fond of church building and his most famous was the Hagia Sophia, a church that is the crowning glory of Byzantine Architecture.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">SCIENCE</p> <p>Among many other scientific improvements was the creation of something called “Liquid Fire” also known as Greek or Roman Fire. This was a liquid probably petroleum based that was flammable, and had a lower density than water meaning it would float. It also could not be extinguished with water; water would only cause it to spread. This was an especially powerful weapon during naval battles. The Byzantines used this against their enemies and it proved to be a valuable asset. While the Christians of the Byzantine Empire had scientific improvements the Muslims of the Byzantine Empire had an even greater impact on society today.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">MEDICINE</p> <p>Medicine was one of the many fields in which the Byzantines advanced much farther than the Greeks and Romans before them. The Byzantines were the first to even mention hospitals in their historical texts. A Byzantine Hospital used new medical techniques of the Muslims and ancient knowledge to give top rate care. Their hospitals were dedicated medical establishments staffed by private physicians who were required by laws to work publicly for 6-months out of the year. The hospitals were usually funded through the government or the church.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">MUSLIM GOLDEN AGE</p> <p>The Byzantine Empire was a melting pot of many cultures. While most Byzantine citizens were Christians; there was an influx of converted Muslims both Arab and Turk. The Muslim culture valued education and had the ability, with the pilgrimage to Mecca, to constantly learn new ideas and mix together old ones on a regular basis. Many lasting contributions to our world today came from this area in the middle ages. Such as alchemy, algebra, algorithms, contributions to astronomy and chemistry. There are even artifacts that show the creation of steel and batteries hundreds of years before anyone in Europe thought about how to use them.</p>	

AP World: Tour of the Byzantine Empire **Name:** _____ **Hour:** _____