World War 1 Map Activity

KEY

- ☐ Central Powers
- ☐ Allies
- ☐ Neutral Countries

World War I

A. Label the countries that have been left blank using the Europe before World War I map.
B. Color the Central Powers all red: Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire.
C. Color the Allies in blue: Ireland, Great Britain, Portugal, France, Belgium, Russia, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Greece, Morocco and Algeria
D. Color the neutral countries in green: Norway, Sweden, Spain, Albania and Switzerland. (Italy aligned with Central Powers before the war, became neutral at the outbreak of war, and then eventually joined the Allies. See #6 on other page).

World War 1 Map Activity

THE WAR BEGINS

1. Outline the oval in **ORANGE** and **LABEL** this region the Balkans. Prior to WWI the Balkans contained the countries of Serbia, Montenegro, and the Austro-Hungarian territories of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Slovenia; of which many people in this area were of the Slavic ethnicity. The Balkans are nicknamed the "Powder keg of Europe." One spark and the whole place would explode.

2. Find the star in the country of Austria-Hungary. Color the star **RED**, and **LABEL** it Sarajevo; as this is where Sarajevo is located. In June of 1914, a Serbian nationalist assassinated Archduke Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary in Sarajevo because Serbia wanted to extend its borders into the Austro-Hungarian Empire to include those people who were Slavic; the Austro-Hungarian Empire would not allow this. The Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand was the spark that ignited the Balkans and started WWI.

3. Austria-Hungary made several demands to the country of Serbia to turn over the nationalist assassin. When demands were not met Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia in July of 1914.

CHOOSING SIDES

4. The rest of Europe became involved through the alliances they had with either Austria-Hungary or Serbia. Shade in Austria-Hungary **RED**, and Serbia **BLUE**.

5. In **RED**, outline Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire. These are the Central Powers who had an alliance with Austria-Hungary.

6. Outline Italy in **RED** and place diagonal lines in **BLUE** – Italy was originally one of the Central Powers, but then defected to the Allies

7. Russia had a large Slavic population and was the first country to come to Serbia's aide. Outline Russia in **BLUE**.

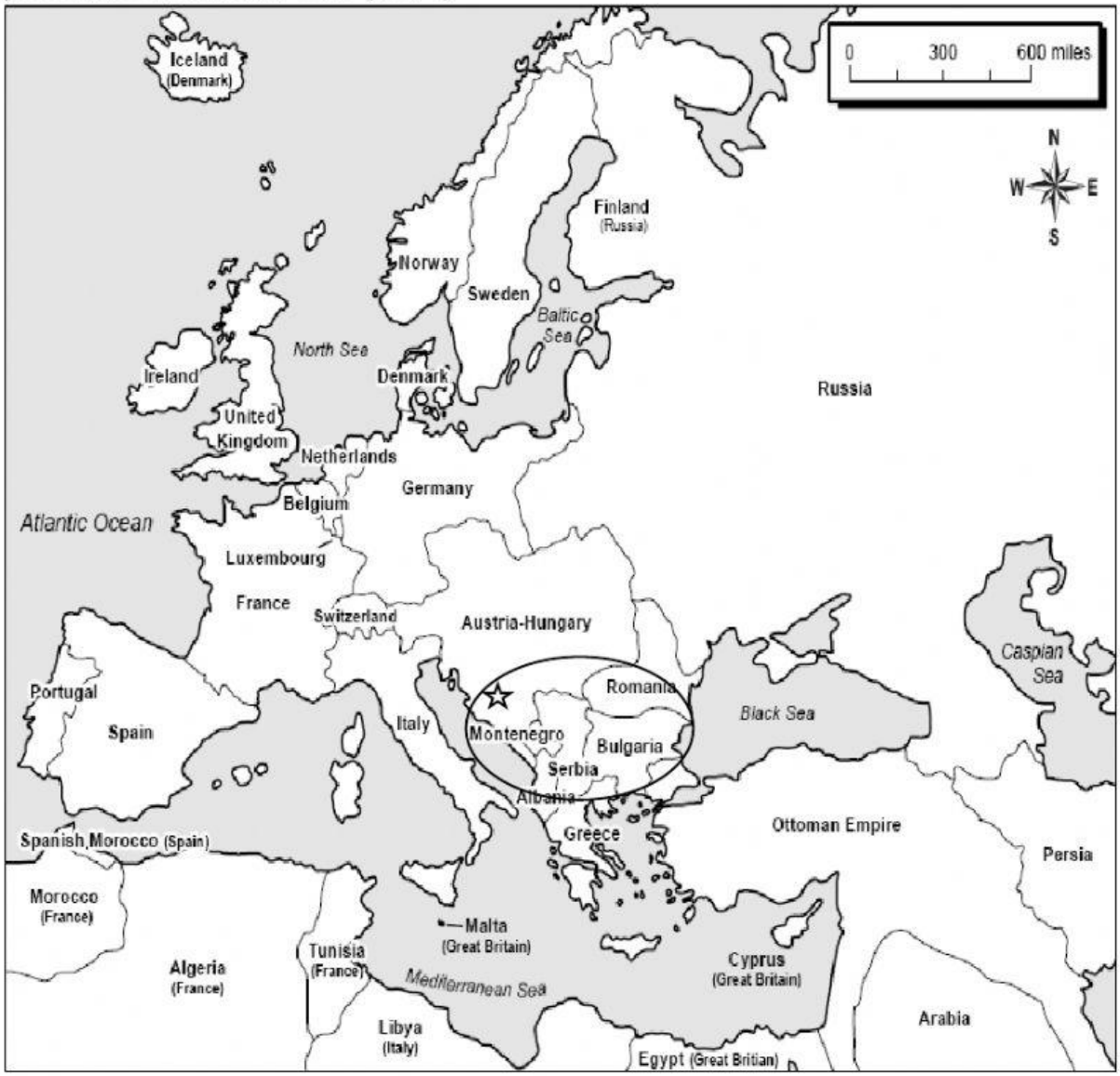
8. Germany used this war as a tool to expand its own power. Germany not only helped defend Austria-Hungary from Serbia and its allies, but also declared war its own border countries of Russia and France. Soon after Great Britain declared war on Germany to help out its allies. In **BLUE**, outline England, France, and Russia; these countries are the Allied Powers.

THE WESTERN FRONT

9. Everyone expected Germany to invade eastern France along their common border. Instead the Germans trolled though Belgium and attacked northern France. In **RED,** draw a dotted line from the word Germany to Belgium and a **RED** arrow from Belgium into France.

10. In **BLACK**, draw a thick line on the borders of France and Belgium, and France and Germany. This is the WESTERN FRONT (please **LABEL** it as the Western Front): the soldiers on both sides dug trenches facing each other. Nobody moved very much for four long years. They climbed out of their trenches ran across an open field, were shot at by machine guns, suffocated by poisonous gas, and even caught in barbed wire. Almost 10 million soldiers are buried here.

AMERICA JOINS THE WAR EFFORT

11. Draw a dotted line in **BLUE** from the Atlantic Ocean to Paris. This was the biggest surprise just when it looked like Germany was going to beat England and France, the United States Entered the war in 1917. Three years after the war started.

Europe Before World War One (1914)