



KIDS and CULTURES

**REALLY BIG FIELD TRIP**  
**TURKEY** ✈️

**EDUCATIONAL  
IDEAS**

Here are some ideas you can try at home or school to extend the learning after watching Really Big Field Trip: Turkey.

Visit [www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey) for up-to-date links to the websites listed below. If a link isn't working, please notify us as [info@KidsAndCultures.com](mailto:info@KidsAndCultures.com) so that we can fix it.

Have fun!

## INTRODUCTION/ABOUT TURKEY

1. Find Turkey on a globe. What continent(s) is it on?
2. Look at a map of the country of Turkey. See <http://worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/europe/trlarge.htm> for the major geographic features and cities.
3. Make your own map of Turkey. Draw it yourself, or transfer the major features onto a blank map printed from <http://worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/europe/outline/tr.htm>. Label the Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir, the cities we visited.
4. How many time zones are there in Turkey? What other countries are in the same time zone(s)? See [http://www.enjoyturkey.com/info/usefull\\_info/Time\\_Zones.htm](http://www.enjoyturkey.com/info/usefull_info/Time_Zones.htm) for a table.
5. What time is it in Istanbul? Use the time zone information to add/subtract and find the current time there. Check your calculations with the clock at [www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey).
6. Look at the latitude of Turkey. Use what you know about the weather in that latitude to hypothesize about the climate.
7. What is the weather today? Check out Weather Underground to see today's weather. See <http://www.weatherunderground.com/global/TU.html>. What is the range of temperatures in the country, or are they all the same? What is the temperature in Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir?
8. Calculate our flight time from New York City to Istanbul: the flight left at 4:45 p.m. and arrived at 9:40 a.m. Remember to factor in the seven hour time change!
9. What is JFK? How about IST? See if you can find those acronyms and their meaning online.

10. Use a map or globe (or <http://www.mapcrow.info/>) to find the distance from JFK to IST. Use your calculation of our flight time (above) and find our average flight speed.
11. We traveled from Istanbul to Ankara. How far is it? Visit <http://www.mapcrow.info/> to figure it out. What city is about that distance from where you live? How far is Ankara from your hometown?
12. In the middle of our trip, we traveled from Ankara to Izmir. How far is it? Check <http://www.mapcrow.info/> to find out.
13. We flew from Izmir to Istanbul. How far did we travel? Check out <http://www.mapcrow.info/> to find out. Istanbul is Turkey's largest city. What is your country's largest city? Can you find another city or town about the same distance as the distance from Izmir to Istanbul?
14. Identify other countries in the world that are part of two continents.
15. Print off an activity sheet of the Turkish flag at [http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/turkey-\(nation\)/](http://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/print/turkey-(nation)/). Color it according to the directions.

## MINIATURK

16. Miniaturk is a park featuring scale models of important places in Turkey. Read about it at <http://www.i-a-m-p.org/parkinfo.asp?lang=uk&ParkID=20> and see pictures at <http://www.letsgoistanbul.com/miniaturk.htm>. Why was Miniaturk built? What day did it open? How long did it take to build?
17. Everything in Miniaturk has a 1:25 scale. If Hagia Sofia's dome is actually 56 meters (183.7 feet) high, how high is the dome at Miniaturk? Calculate the height of Suleymaniye Mosque's dome: the real one is 51.8 meters (170 feet) high. How long is the Miniaturk's Bosphorus Bridge? (The actual bridge is 1,560 meters or 5,118 feet long.)
18. How big would a model of your room need to be if it was at Miniaturk? Measure the dimensions of your room and figure it out with the 1:25 scale.

## OLD

19. We visited the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations and learned more about the history of Turkey. You can virtually visit the museum with a look at photos from its collection at: [http://www.pbase.com/dosseman/ankara\\_museum\\_turkey](http://www.pbase.com/dosseman/ankara_museum_turkey).
20. Read about Anatolian Civilizations at [http://www.geocities.com/anadolu\\_muzesi/dly.html](http://www.geocities.com/anadolu_muzesi/dly.html). Make a timeline of Anatolian

Civilizations. Add to that timeline other important dates you know from world history. How did the peoples of Turkey influence the world?

21. We visited the sites around the ancient city of Ephesus. Print a map of what remains of this site at [http://sailturkey.com/panoramas/ephesus/discover\\_ephesus/demo/0100.html](http://sailturkey.com/panoramas/ephesus/discover_ephesus/demo/0100.html), then virtually visit by way of [http://sailturkey.com/panoramas/ephesus/discover\\_ephesus/](http://sailturkey.com/panoramas/ephesus/discover_ephesus/).
22. We also visited Topkapi Palace. It was built in the 1460's for Sultan Mehmed II and his court. Visit <http://www.letsgoistanbul.com/topkapi.htm> or <http://www.ee.bilkent.edu.tr/~history/topkapi.html> to learn about the museum at the Palace today.
23. To learn about what it was like to live in Topkapi Palace when it was at its peak, read [\*Leyla: The Black Tulip \(Girls of Many Lands\)\*](#) about a girl who was chosen to live there.
24. Calligraphy is a very important art style to people of the Muslim faith. There is a lot of beautiful calligraphy in Topkapi palace, both in the illuminated manuscripts of the Koran and on the walls of the palace itself. Try your hand at calligraphic art. Check out <http://www.crayola.com/coloringcraft/craft/detail.cfm?id=1417> for a calligraphic art idea.
25. Draw and write about the oldest building you've ever been in.
26. If your house/city survives for a hundred or more years, which part should survive to show future generations what life is like now? The porch? The living room? The attic? The library? Draw the place, labeling its contents. Share it with someone else. Be sure to explain why this place is important to tell about your life, including why some of the items in the place should be preserved to be studied.
27. We visited the Hippodrome. What is that? Visit [http://www.istanbulinfolink.com/the\\_city/monuments/hippodrome.htm](http://www.istanbulinfolink.com/the_city/monuments/hippodrome.htm) to find out. The races at the Hippodrome used to be blue team against green team, and the outcome would affect life in the city. Sometimes riots would even break out, depending on how the race turned out. Once, much of the city—including the church—was ruined because of the fighting that happened after a race! The site of that church was then used for the building spot of Hagia Sophia.
28. There are many ancient cultures represented at Hippodrome today. It is named in the language of one of them. What does "hippos dromos" mean? Read about it at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hippodrome>. Can you figure out what language it is named in? Read about this Hippodrome at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hippodrome\\_of\\_Constantinople](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hippodrome_of_Constantinople) and learn what is still

there that was brought from Delphi, from ancient Egypt, and from Germany?

29. Archeology is a big word that means studying people and their cultures by studying what they've left behind. Be an archeologist! Ask a grownup to gather a bag of goodies from an ancestor of theirs (possibly a parent or grandparent, but someone that you do not know well). Pull out one item at a time, experience it, and build a "mental picture" of what that ancestor is/was like. Tell the grownup what you think the person was like based on what they left behind. The grownup can tell you how accurate your archeology was!

## SCHOOL

30. What are Turkish schools like? Read about school under "People in Turkey" at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/globaltrek/destinations/turkey.htm>.
31. Compare and contrast your school with Jonathon's school.
32. Pretend you're in Turkish school. Listen to different sounds of the Turkish alphabet on the Really Big Field Trip DVD or at <http://www.princeton.edu/~ehgilson/alpha.html> or <http://www.onlineturkish.com/alphabet.asp>. What sounds do you hear that we do not have in English?
33. Write the Turkish alphabet. Can you figure out how to spell your name in Turkish?
34. Learn a few Turkish words. Try colors, numbers one to ten, or family members at [http://www.onlineturkish.com/free\\_trial\\_lessons\\_Turkish.asp](http://www.onlineturkish.com/free_trial_lessons_Turkish.asp).
35. Listen to Turkish music. Check out [www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey) to listen to more music from Yamanlar, Jonathan's school. Or you can listen to online radio stations at <http://creatonic.com/tronline/> (scroll down to the Muzik links). Does any of it sound familiar? Can you hear different styles: pop, easy listening, traditional, even electronica? Read about Turkish music at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music\\_of\\_Turkey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_Turkey).
36. What is a maqam? What about a buzuq? Visit <http://www.maqamworld.com/>, to see if you can define these musical terms.
37. One of the many Turkish arts is marbling. Read about it at <http://security.ece.orst.edu/koc/favorites/ebru/>, then try it yourself! Here's a way to do it with things you might have at home. Use a popsicle stick to spread shaving cream evenly on a cookie sheet. Drop a few drops of food coloring here and there on the shaving cream. Swirl the color around in the cream with toothpicks. When you have it distributed as you like, gently lay an absorbent piece of paper over the colorful shaving cream. Smooth it with your hand, then pull it off. Lay the paper down, shaving cream side up, on a table. Scrape off the shaving cream with a popsicle stick. You should have

beautifully marbled paper! You can make several prints of the same marbled colors, or add more colors and re-swirl.

38. Turkish kids enjoy playing games together, too. Here's one that is played just for fun. It is called "Hand in Hand." Stand in a circle, holding hands, and move clockwise, chanting, "Hand in hand, arm in arm, a pair of trunks and red hazelnuts." Then, all fall down as dramatically as possible while yelling "Foosh!" Then get back up and repeat as many times as desired. The purpose of this game is just to be silly and laugh and have fun! (from [http://aton.ttu.edu/turkish\\_games/htm\\_pages/15.htm](http://aton.ttu.edu/turkish_games/htm_pages/15.htm)) There are many other games at [http://aton.ttu.edu/turkish\\_games/index.htm](http://aton.ttu.edu/turkish_games/index.htm). You may want to try "Beauty and Ugliness," on page 16, or "Ebe, Come to Us," on pages 21-22. Read several and choose the ones you want to play!
39. Today, there are many sports in Turkey. Two very popular ones are football (Americans call it soccer) and wrestling. You might already know how to play football. But to learn more about a special kind of Turkish wrestling, visit <http://www.allaboutturkey.com/yagligures.htm>. Would you like to try this? Why or why not?
40. May 19 is Youth and Sports Day in Turkey. Watch a short video ([http://www.videosofturkey.com/video\\_details.asp?id=202](http://www.videosofturkey.com/video_details.asp?id=202)) of a prior year's celebration of the event. Do you recognize any of the locations that we visited?
41. Find more Turkish signs (than are shown in the documentary) and their meanings at [www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey).

## **GOD/ALLAH**

42. What is Hagia Sophia? Read about it at <http://www.guideistanbul.net/ayasofya.htm>, and list the three things it has been used for in the years since it was built.
43. Hagia Sophia's dome is 150 feet high and 72 feet wide. How high is that? Compare it to a local building to get an idea of the size, and imagine standing in that space with nothing in the middle holding it up!
44. Hagia Sophia was decorated with mosaic icons—holy pictures—made with bits of colored glass mounted directly onto the walls and ceilings. Make your own mosaic with bits of colored paper glued onto a blank piece of paper in a shape you've designed.
45. Read about a riot that happened in Ephesus, found in Acts 19:23-41 in the Christian Bible. This event likely happened in the theater that we visited.

46. Download *It Happened in Turkey* at [http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/\\_files/live/It\\_Happened\\_in\\_Turkey.pdf](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/_files/live/It_Happened_in_Turkey.pdf). See if you can match historic Christian events to their locations on the map.
47. What is a mosque? Read about Suleymaniye Mosque at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S%C3%BCleymaniye\\_Mosque](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S%C3%BCleymaniye_Mosque). See pictures and go on a 360-view tour at <http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue/200605/suleymaniye/default.htm>. What other structure that we visited is it compared to?
48. The Suleymaniye Mosque has an elaborate, vaulted entrance. Make your own beautiful entrance to a miniature mosque by visiting <http://www.crayola.com/coloringcraft/craft/detail.cfm?id=1425> for directions. (If this link doesn't work, search for "high ceiling mosaic" at [www.crayola.com](http://www.crayola.com).)
49. Read a selection from the Qur'an, the holy book of Islam.
50. At what times of the day do Muslims stop to pray? If you are not a Muslim, what do you do at those times of the day?
51. If you were to say a prayer five times a day, what would you say?

## HELLO

52. Talk about Turkey's slogan: "Yurtta sulh cihanda sulh," or, in English, "Peace in the country, peace in the world." Tell what you think about the slogan, if you think it is important to live by or not, and why or why not.
53. See a list of people groups in Turkey at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Ethnic\\_groups\\_in\\_Turkey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Ethnic_groups_in_Turkey). Click on any group(s) to read more about them.
54. Teachers/parents: surprise your child(ren) on their arrival by sitting down to a Turkish tea. Sit on the floor, drinking black (traditional) or apple (for the tourists) tea, eating Turkish delight, pistachios, and dried apricots (all made or grown in Turkey). Turkey is the fifth largest consumer of tea in the world! Enjoy tea and a snack before doing what the children were expecting to do. (Before any business is done in Turkey, people take tea together.) To make their experience similar to Katia's and Thaniel's, serve them again and again until they can't eat any more!
55. Read about Turkish food at <http://www.allaboutturkey.com/mutfak.htm>. What foods are the same/different from what you eat? Would you like to try Turkish foods?

56. Try Turkish recipes at [www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/turkey).
57. Order Turkish food already prepared at [www.Tulumba.com](http://www.Tulumba.com).
58. Do you speak a language in addition to English? How difficult is it to translate for other people who only speak one of these languages?
59. If you don't speak another language, talk with someone who does. Ask him or her to translate while you talk. Does this person have a funny story to tell about translating?

### **SHOPPING/SPA/BOOK BAZAAR**

60. In Turkey, people use Turkish New Lira to shop. How many Turkish New Lira can we buy for one US dollar? See [www.gocurrency.com/v2/dorate.php?inV=1&from=USD&to=TRY&Calculate=Convert](http://www.gocurrency.com/v2/dorate.php?inV=1&from=USD&to=TRY&Calculate=Convert).
61. See what Turkish New Lira looks like at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish\\_new\\_lira](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish_new_lira). What advantage is there to having colored bills in your money?
62. Have you ever had to barter? Bartering means talking with the store owner or clerk about the price of something that is for sale, until you both agree on a price. Talk about whether or not you would like to shop this way, and why.
63. The Grand Bazaar has been operating since 1453, and consists of thousands of shops under one roof. What is the Turkish name for this shopping center? Visit [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Grand\\_Bazaar,\\_Istanbul](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Grand_Bazaar,_Istanbul) to learn more.
64. The Grand Bazaar covers more than 58 streets. See a map of it at [http://www.kapalicarsi.org.tr/harita\\_ana.php](http://www.kapalicarsi.org.tr/harita_ana.php). Use this map to draw the Bazaar over a copy of a map of your nearest city or town. Would the Grand Bazaar fit there?
65. At the Bazaar, we could buy many different things. See pictures of some items at <http://www.turkeytravelplanner.com/details/Shopping/index.html>. Write a shopping list of what you would buy if you were shopping with us today.
66. Make your own "evil eye" bracelet. Paint three blue eyes each on wooden beads. String them—with other beads—onto elastic string and tie it to fit your wrist.
67. Turkey is well known for its beautiful carpets. Design your own carpet on a piece of paper. Visit <http://www.handmadecarpets.net> to see some actual Turkish carpets and read how they're made (click on "making carpets.") Design your own with paper and crayons. See <http://www.crayola.com/coloringcraft/craft/detail.cfm?id=1424> for directions.



68. Read about the Kizilcahamam Asya spa at <http://www.tourkeyturkey.com/ankaraasyakh.htm>. What does this spa offer that you like? Create a postcard of the spa. Pretend you're there and write a note to someone, telling them about your day at the spa.
69. Among the books we saw at the book bazaar we found many folk tales from Turkey. You can find Turkish folk tales at <http://www.topics-mag.com/folk-tales/folk-tale-greed-turk.htm>, <http://www.topics-mag.com/folk-tales/folk-tale-lying-tk.htm>, and <http://www.tolerance.org/storybooks/eat/index.html>. Or check Turkish folk tales out of the library to read. Try *The Fish Peri: A Turkish Folk Tale* by Ariane Dewey, *New Patches for Old: A Turkish Folktale* by Barbara Walker, or *The hungry coat: a tale from Turkey*, by Margaret Demi.
70. Read some Turkish sayings at <http://www.columbia.edu/~sss31/Turkiye/proverbs.html>. Do any of them sound familiar? Illustrate your favorite.
71. Read the article at <http://www.allaboutturkey.com/nasreddin.htm> to find out who Nasreddin Hoca is and what he has contributed to Turkish literature. Read on past the article to enjoy some of his stories.
72. Plan, set up, and have your own book bazaar. With your parents' permission, bring books to class that you no longer need. Plan a day for the bazaar, prepare "money" to use for the sale, and make a sign with the name of your bookshop on it. When the day of the bazaar comes, set up the books you have for "sale" and prepare to barter with other classmates over the price of each book. Work out a system where everyone can have some "money" to spend, and take turns being open for business and shopping. (If you're not in a classroom, find a couple of friends and set up your book bazaar in someone's house instead.)
73. Or, if you can't have an actual bazaar, write about what kind of books you would offer, if you ran a book bazaar.

## CHILDREN

74. On April 23, Turkish children take over the Grand National Assembly for the day. If you were in charge of your school, town, state, or country, what laws would you make? Write about them.
75. Read about Children's Day at [http://www.internet-at-work.com/hos\\_mcgrane/holidays/erol.html](http://www.internet-at-work.com/hos_mcgrane/holidays/erol.html). Do you think it is a good thing to celebrate? Why or why not?
76. Children from around the world come to Turkey to share their culture with the children of Turkey today. Visit this link <http://www.trt.net.tr/23nisan/anasayfa.aspx?dil=eng> to

see the festivities in Antalya, another city in Turkey. If you were to present about your country while in Turkey, what would you do to show your culture? Plan a time to present about your culture and invite others to enjoy your presentation.

77. Visit this link <http://www.trt.net.tr/23nisan/ulkeler.aspx?dil=eng> to see which countries have participated in International Children's Day in the past. How many of these have you heard of? How many can you find on a map? Have you met anyone from these countries?

78. Read and illustrate the words of the Turkish poet Nazim Hikmet about Children's Day...

*To live like a tree, lonely and free  
To live as brothers like trees in a forest,  
That dream is ours!*

*And we make our call to the world with his great poem;*

*Let's give the world to the children just for one day  
like a balloon in bright and striking colours to play with  
let them play singing among the stars  
let's give the world to the children  
like a huge apple like a warm loaf of bread  
at least for one day let them have enough  
let's give the world to the children  
at least for one day let the world learn friendship  
children will get the world from our hands  
they'll plant immortal trees*

79. Discuss what you think International Children's Day founder Ataturk meant when he said, "Children are a new beginning of tomorrow."

80. Read about Ataturk at <http://www.ataturk.com/content/view/12/26/> or at [http://www.mymerhaba.com/en/main/content.asp\\_Q\\_id\\_E\\_136](http://www.mymerhaba.com/en/main/content.asp_Q_id_E_136). Can you find the answers to the following: What did he do in 1923? Where'd he get the name Ataturk—and what does it mean?

81. Ataturk wanted unity and friendship among people. Write down this quote that he said: "I look to the world with an open heart full of pure feelings and friendship". Talk about the quote: Do you think it is a good way to look at the world? How are you living this way already? How could you live in a way that is more like Ataturk's quote?

82. Unscramble these quotes from Ataturk:

- a. "eacpe at home, eacpe in the world."
- b. "Mankind is a single dyob and each nation is a part of that dyob."

- c. "Do not be afraid of telling the hrutt."
- d. "sareecth are the one and only people who save nations."
- e. Full pleasure and hispaspen in life can be found in working for the honor and hispaspen of future generations."

## OTHER

83. What kind of animals can you find in the Bosphorus? Read this article to learn of one: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=9446805>. Do these animals actually live in the Bosphorus, or are they just visitors?
84. What about the rest of Turkey? Are there any unique animals in the country? Ankara was famous for its long-haired Angora goat and its prized wool (mohair), a unique breed of cat (Angora cat—read more at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish\\_Angora](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish_Angora)), white rabbits and their prized wool (Angora wool).
85. In order to enter Turkey and then re-enter the USA, we needed an important document. We had to apply for them several months beforehand to make sure we received them in time. This document belongs to the government, but it is about each one of us, telling that we are indeed U.S. citizens, and we get to keep it with us all the time. What is the name of this document? Where is the closest facility to you, for applying for one? Visit <http://iafdb.travel.state.gov/DefaultForm.aspx> to find out.
86. Fill out a passport application at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first\\_832.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first_832.html).
87. Besides passports and tickets, what else do you think we took on our trip? Make a list of what you would pack for a trip to Turkey. Knowing what you do about the weather and climate in Turkey, what would you take? Remember to list clothes, activities for the long flight, and any other items you think you'd need.
88. If each person took 50 lbs. of baggage on the trip, how much weight would a family of four add to the plane, overall? If the plane carries 246 people, and everyone takes 50 lbs., how much luggage weight will the plane carry, overall?
89. Here's a challenge question: can you find out how high airplanes can fly?
90. Write a story about you would do for 10 hours on an airplane.
91. Write about a trip you have taken or would like to take.
92. What is jet lag? Visit [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jet\\_lag](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jet_lag) to learn more. What should you do to combat it?

93. Visit <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinationTurkey.aspx> to find out what immunizations are recommended for U.S. citizens visitors to Turkey. Have you had any of these immunizations?
94. When we flew back to the United States, we had to fill out a paper telling the American government what we brought back into the country that we didn't have before (souvenirs and gifts). This is called "declaring." Discuss why you think countries ask people coming into them to declare items they are bringing with them.
95. If you could travel to Turkey, where would you like to visit and what would you like to see? Design a travel brochure based on what you know now.
96. Watch Globe Trekker Turkey (<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0002BSHFC?tag=reabigfietri-20&camp=14573&creative=327641&linkCode=as1&creativeASIN=B0002BSHFC&adid=1WD354QEWRVW3K44KDDW&>) or Globe Trekker Istanbul (<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B0001WTVY8?tag=reabigfietri-20&camp=14573&creative=327641&linkCode=as1&creativeASIN=B0001WTVY8&adid=0KY3ZSV007Y8C1ATCB6Y&>) to see some other travelers' experiences.
97. Watch [www.ebru.tv](http://www.ebru.tv) for Turkish TV programming.
98. Watch the Behind the Scenes and the Photo Gallery segments of the DVD. Identify locations/scenes that did not appear in the documentary. Which ones would you like to learn more about? (In the documentary credits, you can find a list of locations we visited.)
99. The documentary has Fun Facts throughout. What Fun Facts about your country, town, or school would you include in a Really Big Field Trip to your location?
100. Write to Katia and Thaniel at [www.KidsAndCultures.com/contact](http://www.KidsAndCultures.com/contact).