

## **AFRICAN MASK ASSIGNMENT OVERVIEW**

You will be creating a mask to display in the school. The mask will represent important information you learn about your African country through your research. It can be completely abstract, or represent the head of an animal or human.

**Step 1.** Choose an African country to research. Find as much information you can and record it on your research graphic organizer.

**Step 2.** Decide on a purpose for your mask that demonstrates and reflects your research on your country. Here are some suggestions:

1. Prevent danger
2. Welcome visitors
3. Warn of danger
4. Hunt animals
5. Heal
6. Culture traits
7. Tell a story

**Step 3.** Sketch your mask. Be sure to include images that reflect aspects of your country found in your research. For example, your mask could look like an animal that lives in that country and parts of the mask could also have hair to represent the grass in the grasslands. Or the mask can be abstract, which would have a design not depicting a recognizable face.

**Step 4.** Create your mask.

**African mask characteristics include:**

- Bold pattern
- geometrical/symmetrical design
- patterns may be parallel, zigzag, curved, spiral lines, etc.

**Symbolic colors:**

- red - life & blood
- gold - fortune
- blue - innocence
- green - earth
- black - unity of people of Africa

**Step 5.** In addition to turning in your graphic organizer, you need to write and turn in a separate written explanation that helps explain the purpose of your mask, and how it represents your country. All aspects of your mask should be explained.