My website is about an Armenian man, who wants to learn more about the Armenian Diaspora. There are 11 million Armenians, and only 3 million of them live in Armenia. During 1915 and 1923, 1.5 million Armenians were killed in the Armenian genocide, while millions of others fled, including my great grandparents.

I am part of the Armenian diaspora that resides in Jordan, which is home to more than 3000 Armenians. As I grew up, I was fascinated by how I have relatives in almost every country I go to. Right now, I have relatives in Syria, Lebanon, France, Australia, Canada, the United States, and probably four more countries that I cannot recall right now.

I decided to visualize my fascination on a website, mapping out the world indicating the Armenian population in each country. I changed the mouse into an Armenian man, because I want to give the user the feeling that they are traveling around the world to explore and see how many Armenians reside in a given country.

The first thing I did after coming up with the idea is to research how to make a map. After that, I compiled my own database in a format that is compatible with my javascript code. It was a little bit challenging to find data about the Armenian population, as there were several sources claiming different numbers, so I had to do my research to determine which source is the most credible. Even now, I am still worried that some numbers may be inaccurate. With time, I can update the database as I get more reliable data.

Finally, I used Photoshop to edit a picture of an Armenian man and assigned him as my cursor. This was done to give off the feeling of a man travelling around the world. After **user-testing**, I realized that I should change the cursor back into a pointer when someone hovers over a country. The reason behind this is because it is really hard to hover over countries that are so close to each other if the cursor is always the man, especially when the countries are small.

The graphic design of website is very simple, **avoiding purely decorative clutter**, but also not too **minimalistic**. I first showed my map without any text except when you hover over a country, a text box appears saying the number of Armenians in that country (e.g. "There are 3000 Armenians in Jordan"). Some users immediately pointed out that this map is about the Armenian Diaspora. However, because users do not like to think, I decided to include a title and a small description under it, so that users can immediately experience the content without having to figure out what it is.

My website takes advantage of the **procedural** medium it is in. It allows the user to interact with the map, and determine his/her own path, and every time they interact with the map, it could be a different path that they are taking. As the user **participates** in interacting with my website, the code performs its own actions and gives a clear feedback, showing the effects of the user's actions.

Since the computer is an **encyclopedic** medium, it would be easy to transform this map into a any other population map. All users have to do is plug in their own data, change the image of the cursor into the image of their choice, and make a few tweaks in the HTML file.

Overall, I am happy with this project, it conveyed what I was trying to convey. Next steps may include making the data more accurate, and adding more info about the Armenians in certain countries. For example, when a user hovers over a country with a very big number of Armenians, I can display a famous Armenian on the screen and what they do for a living.