

Process Paper

We chose our topic because we both had an interest in Nabataea, an ancient Middle Eastern civilization. It existed from 100 BCE to 150 CE bordering Jordan and Egypt. Evan had recently traveled to the former capitol of Nabataea, Petra, and Hudson wanted to know more about their complex web of economic and diplomatic relations. “Frontiers in History” was the NHD theme this year. Our topic of Nabataea strongly relates to this topic for a plethora of reasons. Firstly, the Nabataeans were pioneers in trade. They were the very first nation to trade over both land and sea, controlling trade routes over Asia, Europe, and the Red Sea. Secondly, the Nabataeans were one of the very first peaceful nations but also one of the most successful.

To conduct our research we had taken all of our questions we had about the Nabataeans. We took our questions and found websites that answered them clearly and to the point. To make sure our research was correct, we would check to see if the source was trustworthy, and if it was made by a professional. Finally, we added it to our annotated bibliography.

To create our project, we started with our research. This included choosing our topic, creating our research question, searching for primary and secondary sources, and putting those sources in our graphic organizer. Choosing our topic was simple, as we just came up with a subject that we were both interested in. To create our research question, we looked for any major event that changed the course of world history, so we chose their innovations in trade. For the second half of our project, we had to write our essays. We used our research to strengthen our arguments, and finally, we created our website.

For our historical argument, we stated the Nabataeans revolutionized ancient times through trade. To back this statement, we detailed their innovations in trade, as well as how

their trading affected other nations. Their innovations in trade included conquering both land and sea in order to increase nations they could trade with, as well as creating special cargo ships in order to transport goods at a blazing speed. The goods the Nabataeans traded included pottery, jewels, and livestock. By allowing other civilizations to obtain foreign materials, it promoted growth and development that was hindered by the lack of these goods.

Our topic is significant in history because the Nabataeans were able to change the course of many nations. The Nabataeans, trading items with other civilizations, changed the course of them greatly. By allowing places like Egypt to have foreign items like certain livestock, they could have a greater quality of life caused by a wider variety of animals.