In A.P. European History, we will cover some 650 years of Europe's history in just 8 months. In order to give us a starting point, we will do some background work over the summer. Your summer assignment is to learn about the Middle Ages in Europe. Start by reading these two brief summaries:

http://hubpages.com/education/A-Brief-Summary-of-the-Middle-Ages

http://www.localhistories.org/middle.html

Next, watch these videos on the Middle ages. One is very short, while the other is quite a bit longer. Perhaps the longer one is something your whole family would enjoy watching together.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lSvfiQkC49s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EAMqKUimr8

Okay, now that you have some background, your assignment is to become an expert in ONE aspect of the Middle Ages. You will do some research and then create a project aimed at teaching the class about your topic during the first days of the semester.

Here are some POSSIBLE topics. The list is by no means exhaustive.

We will start our studies in **1348; therefore, so **do not** make the Fourteenth Century (1300 – 1399) the topic of your research (Black Death, Great Schism, Hundred-Years War).

Inventions	Medieval Architecture (perhaps focus only on churches)
Health/Medicine	
Clothing	Knights and Chivalry
Hunting/Falconry	Poetry
Housing	Roles of women
Castles	Vikings
Food	Guilds
Famines	Charlemagne /Holy Roman Empire
Transportation	Richard 1
Paper Making	Francis of Assisi
Writing	Monasteries / Monks
Weaponry	William the Conqueror
Jousting	Thomas Aquinas
Tournaments	The Crusades (or just pick one, like the Children's Crusade, for example)
Armor	
The Church	Eleanor of Aquitaine
Cathedrals	The Bayeux Tapestry
Magna Carta	The Doomsday Book
Medieval Law	Life of:
Music of the Middle Ages	Peasants
Entertainment	Nobles
Medieval Art	

Research Requirements:

➢ You will hand in a complete bibliography – all sources from which you obtained information.

➢ Your bibliography must contain AT LEAST 5 sources; these can be books, websites, articles, and videos. Wikis and blogs ARE NOT acceptable sources. 3 extra points for EACH actual book you include (yeah, so get to the library, guys!).

➢ You will hand in a list of facts covered by your project. You must have AT LEAST 15 facts.

Project Requirements:

The goal of the project is to teach the class the facts you uncovered in your research in a way that will both interest them and allow them to retain at least some of the information.

Project possibilities include:
- A traditional presentation (powerpoint, for example). Your facts should be on this powerpoint, as well as some interesting visuals.

- An oral presentation: this one might be particularly applicable if your project really has few visuals – such as that you are presenting medieval music or poetry.

- A poster, with facts and visuals. Again, all facts need to be on this poster (probably need a tri-fold).

- A digital story video. In other words, something like an imovie with images and words. This can be images with voice-over or images with words (accompanied by music).

- A web quest (look at some examples online), complete with questions and links.

- A model, complete with a fact sheet.

- An "artifact" that you make that contains your facts (like, say, a diary of a monk). Make sure to include the provenance of your "artifact" (the place and time of its origin).

- A performance piece, either live (must be memorized) or filmed, which presents the facts (like an appearance of Charlemagne on Good Morning Holy Roman Empire).

- A Research Paper is NOT an option.

If you have any ideas or questions, please email me: smato@stjoeacad.org