World History Interactive Map Activity Napoleon’s Empire

Directions: Follow these steps using the interactive map to help you investigate Napoleon’s Empire. The map contains various “layers” which highlight the French Empire, its allies and its enemies. By clicking the legend you will be able to see the borders of countries, major cities and even the famous “March and Retreat” of Napoleon’s Russian campaign. After you have gathered your information, you will be asked to answer the questions found below and then post both the map link and your answers to your own Wiki page.

**Locate the following places and briefly describe their importance to Napoleon:**

1. Corsica - Birthplace of Napoleon, raised in Corsica. Raised to hate France because they had power over his own country.

2. Egypt - Had one of his major defeats in the Nile. Was controlled by the British, and he lost the Battle of the Nile to Admiral Nelson trying to disrupt the British trade economy. Originally takes much of Egypt, but after the defeat, he left Egypt and covered up his loss.

3. Paris - Capital of his empire. The location where he was crowned emporer. Designed and rebuilt much of the city.

4. London – Capital of Great Britain, enemy of Napoleon. Wanted to invade and conquer Great Britain, but could not but was turned back by naval defeats against Admiral Nelson. Important to Great Britain’s economy.

5. Moscow – Major defeat after the failure of the Russian campaign. Took the city, but with large casualties, and could not hold the city. Lost a great amount of troops due to starvation and disease.

6. Elba – Location of his first exile after he had been defeated. Comes back from exile and tries to return to power, but failed.

**Once you have done this, use the various layers to find answers to the following and list them below:**

Which nations are controlled or allied with Napoleon?

French Empire, Kingdom of Italy

Which nations are opposed to Napoleon?

Sweden, GB, Portugal, Egypt

**Read the description above the map and then examine the “Invasion of Russia” on the interactive map. Notice the huge losses and temperatures during the campaign. Describe in your own words why the invasion failed based on your readings and our class discussions.**

The reason failed because the French troops were unprepared to deal with the Russian Winter, and many died of starvation or disease. The French successfully fought in Moscow, but had major losses and could not hold the city. He did not prepare for the lack of supplies, and the Russian peasants burned their fields to starve the French army that lived off the land. The Russians also raided camps over the winter to cause additional casualties. His inflated ego was another problem that led to a loss.