LEARNING ABOUT THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD

The ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD is a large, mastiff-type livestock GUARDIAN dog from TURKEY. In Turkey, the breed is known by the name "COBAN KOPEGI" which means, "shepherd dog". Many good Anatolian Shepherds can be found guarding the FLOCKS of SHEEP and GOATS across the Anatolian PLATEAU and around MT. ARARAT where NOAH'S ARK came down. The dogs guard against PREDATORS such as WOLVES, COYOTES, jackals and bears. The shepherd may put a heavy iron SPIKED COLLAR around the dog's neck to PROTECT the dog from wolf attack.

The Anatolian Shepherd is a large dog, weighing from 110-150 pounds when it is full grown. It should stand at least 29 inches at the shoulder. The majority of the dogs are FAWN with a BLACK MASK around their muzzle. Other color varieties in the breed include white, pinto and brindle.

Today there over 3000 Anatolian Shepherds in the United States, many guarding LIVESTOCK on small farms and large RANCHES, just as their ancestors have been doing for over 2000 years.

DOGGY ART CORNER
DIRECTIONS: Draw the rest of this Anatolian Shepherd's face.

CHECKING UP ON WHAT I HAVE LEARNED

1. What country does the Anatolian Shepherd come from?

2. What is the main job of the Anatolian Shepherd?

3. What animals (predators) does the Anatolian Shepherd guard against?

4. What colors can the Anatolian Shepherd be?

5. What is a famous mountain in Turkey? What famous person in biblical history is connected with this mountain?

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**FLAG**

The Turkish national colors are red and white. The flag is red with a white, five-pointed star between the tips of a white crescent. Through the centuries the Turkish flag has had many changes. There are several versions of the history of the crescent. It was the ancient symbol of Byzantium, or Constantinople. Around 1295, according to one legend, Osman, founder of the Ottoman Dynasty in Asia Minor, had a dream. He saw a crescent moon growing larger and larger and extending from east to west. This was interpreted as the expansion of his domain into Constantinople. The star is believed to represent Al Tarek, the bright morning star.

**FUN FACTS**

*Government:* Republic  
*Capital:* Ankara  
*Language:* Turkish  
*Money:* Lira. 9.00 lira = $1. U.S.A.

*Schools:* Boys and girls start school at six years of age. Primary school children attend from 9 to 3; older boys and girls from 9 to 3:45 or 4:30. Children in primary grades and junior high (orta) have a half day off on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Teen-agers attend lycée five and a half days a week. Foreign languages are begun in first year of orta: French, German, English. The major vacation lasts from mid-June to mid-September.

*Places to see:* **İSTANBUL** — only city in the world astride two continents, Europe and Asia; ancient Byzantine Walls, St. Sofia, Cistern of 1001 Columns, Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace — home of the Ottoman Sultans. The Bosphorus — boat rides. **ANKARA** — Youth Park, Citadel, Temple of Augustus, Roman Baths, Hittite Museum, Tomb of Atatürk. **MT. ARARAT** — resting place of Noah's Ark. **VALLEY OF GÖREME** — "Petrified Valley," geological wonder. **ANTALYA** — ancient historic city and province. Some cities in Antalya province are sites of Greek myths and there are many ancient ruins. **DEMRE** — birthplace and home of St. Nicholas (Santa Claus).