



Bronx Engineering and Technology Academy (BETA)

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Mr. Ott – Global History & Geography

Lesson Title: Great Thinkers and Accomplishments of Islam Fact Cubes

Grade Level: 6-12

Subjects: Global History & Geography

Estimated Time of Completion: 3-4 class periods

- I. Objectives
- II. Standards
- III. Materials Needed
- IV. Procedure
- V. Assessment Suggestions
- VI. Extensions/Adaptations

Instructional Objectives:

- Students will have the opportunity to view parts two and three of the PBS video series Islam: Empire of Faith.
- Students will have the opportunity to research specific topics associated with Islamic culture using the World Wide Web, library books, and various research tools.
- Students will have the opportunity to create a Great Thinkers and Accomplishments of Islam Fact Cube that represents their research and incorporates visuals.
- Students will have the opportunity to share their findings with their classmates.

Common Core Standards:

Grades 9 & 10

Key Ideas and Details

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.1

Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.2

Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.3

Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.

Craft and Structure

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.5

Analyze how a text uses structure to emphasize key points or advance an explanation or analysis.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.6

Compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.7

Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.8

Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.9

Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.10

By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 9–10 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Materials Needed:

- A copy of parts two and three of the PBS video *Islam: Empire of Faith*
- SmartBoard & Computer
- Computers with Internet access (if not available use library resources)
- Video viewing guide
- Great Thinkers and Accomplishments of Islam Cube Directions
- Great Thinkers and Accomplishments of Islam Fact Cubes Rubric
- Large pieces of white drawing paper (for cubes)
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils
- Glue
- String (if you would like to display projects from ceiling after presentations)

Procedures:

Overview:

This lesson is based on the PBS video series Islam: Empire of Faith. (See adaptation section at the end of the lesson for suggestions if the video is not available.) Students will have the opportunity to learn about the diverse accomplishments of great Islamic scholars. They will research several aspects of Islam including scientific, artistic and architectural accomplishments, philosophers, poets, writers, astronomers, and mathematicians. Using these facts they will create a Great Thinkers and Accomplishments of Islam Fact Cube.

- Teachers should view videos prior to the lesson to get exact time cues, and familiarize themselves to content.
- Prior to students coming into class, display the following words on the SmartBoard
- Philosopher, Scientist, Historian, Astronomer, Great Thinker, Mathematician, Poet, Architect, Contributors in Medicine
- Ask students to respond to these words by giving names they associate with these words.
- Write students' responses next to categories. (For instance if they say Socrates, place that next to Philosopher.)
- Use a map and ask students to identify where most of the people they mentioned are from. (They may need some guidance.) Chances are most of the person's mentioned are from Europe, or the Americas.
- Display the following names on the SmartBoard:
- Suleiman, Ibn Khaldun, Al-Farabi, Al-Biruni Ibn Sina, Omar Khayyam, Al-Ghazali, Ibn Rushd, AbuYusuf Yaqub al-Kindi, Abu Nasr Muhammad al-Farabi
- Ask students if they have heard of any of the above-mentioned names before, and why or why not. (You may guide the discussion by discussing that European Scholars and Western thinkers are discussed more frequently.)
- Explain that it is more rare to hear about the accomplishments of great thinkers in eastern civilization then western civilization, and all of the above mentioned people are considered some of the greatest thinkers of all times, and are from the eastern world.
- Describe to students that they will have the opportunity to view parts two and three of the PBS video series Islam: Empire of Faith, which will introduce them to some of the great thinkers of Islam and Islamic accomplishments.
- As students view the videos, they will complete a video question guide that will be used as a guide to jot down names and accomplishments of the great thinkers of Islam.
- Hand out the video viewing guide and begin videos (skip to step 12 if no video)
- After watching the video discuss some of the ideas that were introduced in Islam and some of the great thinkers.
- Hand out and discuss the requirement sheet and cube directions. (You may want to create a cube of your own so you can show students a sample.)
- Allow students time to work on research using notes and additional research materials. Students may wish to refer to the Culture, Innovation, and Profiles sections within this site. These may be found on the lesson on the classroom wiki.

- Each student will have a rubric for guidance as students complete their cubes.
- Once cubes are completed students will present projects with classmates.
- You may want to put cubes on strings and hang them from the ceiling to display.

Assessment Recommendations:

- Use the Great Thinkers and Accomplishments of Islam Grade Sheet.
- You may want to grade students on video notes.
- Conduct informal assessment of students' knowledge while they are giving presentations.

Extensions/Adaptations:

- Upper level students could write a short biography on an individual highlighted on their cubes.
- For lower level or special needs students, you may want to pair students together, or have optional subjects to research for each cube panel such as general facts relating to Islam.
- For those that do not have access to the video, use the PBS Islam: Empire of Faith Web site, other Web sites, and research materials available through the school and public library.