

# Capitals of the Middle East Lesson Plan

## Overview:

In this lesson plan, students will become acquainted with some of the countries of the Middle East and their capitals. To help students deal with a large body of information, this unit encourages group research. This is a good introduction to the Middle East, which can be paired with units and activities on geography lessons.

## Objectives:

1. Allow students to research a capital city in order to become “experts” on that city, gaining research skills and knowledge of the Middle East. (See handout on capitals of the Middle East.)
2. Consider the geographic location of each capital to become acquainted with the geography of the Middle East. (See blank map handout.)
3. Create capital projects in which students share their knowledge of the areas.

## Activity:

1. Organize students into groups, assigning a particular capital to each group. Tell them that they will be the “experts” on that capital and assign them to do research on their particular city. This lesson can be combined with other lesson plans on this site, including flags, currency, transportation, and water lesson plans.
2. Provide students with either a blank map of the Middle East or use a large in-class map to pin point the capital cities. Have them either write in the capitals on the handout or mark the larger class map.
3. Allow students to share their newly gained “expert” information with their classmates through presentations or project boards. You may wish to ask students to compare the capitals of the Middle East with Washington D.C. or their own state capital.

*Teachers: Please contact Angela Williams, CSAMES Outreach Coordinator, at [aswillms@illinois.edu](mailto:aswillms@illinois.edu), for the answer key to the Capitals Crossword Puzzle and Word Search.*