

North Africa and Southwest Asia

Lesson 3

Big Idea

How have the location and physical geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia affected how the people in these regions live?

Standards

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, Social Studies

Grade 6 (1)(B) analyze the historical background of various contemporary societies to evaluate relationships between past conflicts and current conditions

English Language Proficiency Standards

- (1)(E) internalize new basic and academic language by using and reusing it in meaningful ways in speaking and writing activities that build concept and language attainment
- (4)(D) use prereading supports such as graphic organizers, illustrations, and pretaught topic-related vocabulary and other prereading activities to enhance comprehension of written text

Lesson Topic

Israel and Palestine: The roots of conflict

Objectives

Key Vocabulary

Content

Students will learn about the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians.

Language

Students will do the following:

- Listen to their partner and share ideas during “turn and talk” vocabulary activities
- Write in their notebooks the meanings and synonyms for vocabulary words
- Listen and/or read the lesson passage and write question responses in their notebooks
- In a review and assessment activity, discuss and write in the graphic organizer different perspectives on going to war

Social Studies Content

- conflict
- intifada
- refugee
- territory

General Academic Content

- affect
- perspective

Materials

Preparation

- Student notebooks
- Computer station and document camera
- Text: “History of Israel and Palestinians” and map
- Learning log handout
- Vocabulary cards

- Post the objectives.
- Link to students’ background knowledge.

Motivation (Engagement and Links)**5 minutes**

Provide an overview and background information for today's lesson.

The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is ongoing. The Israelis believe that they are entitled to, or deserve, the land now known as Israel. The Palestinians believe that they are entitled to the land, which they call Palestine. Both sides argue over the same land; they simply refer to the land by different names. For religious Jewish Israelis and religious Muslim Palestinians, the belief is deeper still: Both sides believe that God (who Jews call Jehovah and Muslims call Allah) gave them the land and that giving it away would be going against God.

Today, we will learn about the history of the Israeli and Palestinian conflict, which still affects our world today.

Presentation**20 minutes****Vocabulary****(10 minutes)**

- Introduce today's vocabulary and have students discuss the turn and talk items in pairs and/or with the whole group.
- Have students write vocabulary terms and synonyms in their notebooks.

Teacher-Led Reading**(10 minutes)**

“History of Israel and Palestinians”

- State the big idea.
- Preview the reading by asking questions to activate students' background knowledge and to guide their thinking about what they will learn.
- Read the following questions (also on the learning log), which students will focus on during the reading:
 - Who is involved in the conflict?
 - How did the conflict begin?
 - How does the conflict still affect the region today?
- Model thinking aloud to monitor comprehension while reading (e.g., ask questions, reread, use context clues).
- As you read, demonstrate how to generate different types of questions (e.g., What? Why? How?) and have students respond to these questions.

Practice**6 minutes**

After reading, have student pairs discuss the target vocabulary words and write in their notebooks responses to the questions on the learning log.

When students finish, begin a whole-group discussion of the questions while helping students to focus on the big idea and target vocabulary.

Review and Assessment**10 minutes**

- Introduce the activity.

Today we learned about the history of the Israeli and Palestinian conflict, which still affects our world today. Working with a partner, choose a perspective to support, Israeli or Palestinian, and create a justification, or reason, for going to war.

- Have students write their responses in their graphic organizer.
- Have students share their answers in a whole-class discussion.

Lesson 3 Learning Log

Comprehension

Big Idea	How have the location and physical geography of North Africa and Southwest Asia affected how the people in these regions live?
Key People	Israelis, Palestinians, Ottomans
Key Places	Gaza, West Bank, Jerusalem, Palestine, Israel, Golan Heights
Key Events	
Big Questions	1. Who is involved in the conflict?
	2. How did the conflict begin?
	3. How does the conflict still affect the region today?

conflict (conflicto)

A struggle for power;
strong disagreement between people or groups



Synonyms

disagreement, dispute

Example Use

The **conflict** gave the two countries a justification for going to war.
A **conflict** between the two teams led to a long discussion.

Turn and Talk

Do you think all **conflicts** can be resolved?

intifada [Arabic] (**intifada**)

An armed uprising of Palestinians against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip



Synonyms

rebellion, uprising

Example Use

The first **intifada** began in the refugee camps and quickly spread throughout Gaza.

The **intifada** led to more conflict between Palestinians and Israelis.

Turn and Talk

Why do you think the Palestinians believed an **intifada** would push the Israelis out of the territory?

refugee (refugiado)

Someone who has been forced to leave a country because of war or for religious or political reasons



Synonyms

person in exile, evacuee

Example Use

Thousands of **refugees** fled their territory because of the conflict.

Refugees began returning to their homeland after years of war.

Turn and Talk

Do you think it is fair for people to be forced out of their homes, becoming **refugees**, because of conflict between two countries?

territory (territorio)

An area of land that belongs to or is controlled by a government



Synonyms

area, boundary

Example Use

The refugees entered enemy **territory**.

The countries have been in conflict over the **territory** for many years.

Turn and Talk

What is one reason why people might fight over the same **territory**?