

Jerusalem: A City of Conflict

Students will calculate percentages of the different religious populations in Jerusalem.

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Grade Level	6-7
Duration	1 class period

National Geography Standards

ELEMENT TWO PLACES AND REGIONS

- 4. The physical and human characteristics of places.
- 5. That people create regions to interpret earth's complexity.
- 6. How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions.

Arizona Geography Strand

CONCEPT 2

Places and Regions GRADE 6

PO 4 Explain why places and regions serve as cultural symbols.

GRADE 7

PO 2 Explain the concept of regions and why they change.

Other Arizona Standards

Mathematics Common Core Standards The Number System

- 6.NS.B.2. Fluently divide multi-digit numbers using the standard algorithm.
- AZ.6.NS.C.9. Convert between expressions for positive rational numbers, including fractions, decimals, and percents.
- 7.NS.B.2. Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division and of fractions to multiply and divide rational numbers.
 - d. Convert a rational number to a decimal using long division; know that the decimal form of a rational number terminates in 0s or eventually repeats.

Strand 2 World History

Grade 6

Concept 3 World in Transition

PO 1 Describe aspects (e.g., geographic origins, founders and their teachings, traditions, customs, beliefs) of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Concept 9 Contemporary World

Grades 7

PO 3. Analyze how world events of the late 20th century and early 21st century (e.g., terrorism, globalization, conflicts, interdependence, natural disasters, advancements in science and technology, environmental issues) affected, and continue to affect, the social, political, geographic, and economic climate of the world.

Overview

Students will use a table of data listing the numbers of Jews, Muslims, and Christians in Jerusalem and determine the percentage of each religious group in the city. Students will observe the changes in the population percentages and

analyze those changes. As a result, students will interpret the complexity of different populations in one region on the earth.

Purpose

Jerusalem: A City of Conflict

In this lesson students will gain a better understanding of the religious groups in Jerusalem and the population change being experienced there. They will understand how to calculate percentages and compare and contrast the differences and changes over time.

Materials

- Jerusalem: A City in Conflict worksheet and answer key
- Jerusalem map
- Map of Israel
- A calculator for each student
- Paper, pencil

Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Calculate percentage from the data given.
2. Determine the changes in percentages of religious groups that have occurred over the years in Jerusalem.
3. Predict changes in the religious groups in Jerusalem in the future years.
4. Infer what future conflicts the region will face based on the percentage of change predicted.

Procedures

Students should have experience using a calculator, place value, and rounding.

1. Ask if any students know of a time when they have heard of Israel or Jerusalem and reflect on current situation there. Create a

KWL chart regarding the conflict in the region. Show a recent news clip, if possible, explaining a recent incident in the region.

2. Introduce the lesson by reading the introductory information on Jerusalem with the students and discuss the importance of the city to a number of religions.
3. View the map of Israel and Jerusalem, and locate the holy places of the three religions. Work through the first calculation with them (Jewish population in 1844).
4. Explain that all the percentages when rounded should add up to 100%, and if it doesn't they should recalculate.

Assessment

Students will perform and analyze the calculations on the worksheet provided with 80% accuracy.

Extensions

Refer to the lesson: "Jerusalem: A Holy City" by Gale Ekiss in the GeoLiteracy program produced by the Arizona Geographic Alliance. This lesson is available on their website at <http://geoalliance.asu.edu/azga/>

Have students research Jerusalem on the Internet, in magazines, or in the newspapers for stories involving the different religions.

Sources

Bard, Mitchell. *The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Middle East*. N: Alpha Books, 1999.

<http://www.cbs.gov.il/engindex.htm>