

History

The Silk Road

We chart the origins of this ancient trade route which connected China and the Far East with the Middle East and Europe.

We learn that, besides the movement of food, tools, artwork and precious stones, abstract ideas such as language, culture, philosophy, religious beliefs and science were traded along the Silk Road.

This knowledge influences our approach to the Global Trade Game!

Mini Topic: The Abbasid Caliphate

Narrative

In 762 AD, Caliph Al-Mansur founded Baghdad.

By 900 AD, the city of Baghdad was the biggest, most advanced city in the world. This time was known as the Islamic Golden Age.

During this topic, we discover how Baghdad became a hub for learning and commerce, and great scientific and mathematical advances, culminating in the creation of The House of Wisdom. We follow the 'round city' through to 1258 and learn how it was destroyed by a Mongol invasion.

PSHE

The Trade Game

In groups, and using real objects, we take on the role of trading countries with specific resources to trade with each other.

Will each country be able to provide their citizens with everything they need?

How will each country fare when natural disasters strike and trading needs to be re-negotiated?

RE

Islam

Our study of Islam aims to help develop pupils' knowledge of one of the world's principal religious traditions and worldviews and promote tolerance and understanding. With the Abbasid Caliphate being an Islamic culture, this is the perfect topic to explore Islam.

We learn about The Prophet (peace be upon him) and about the ideas, spiritual rituals, festivals and celebrations of this deep and rich faith. This is also a chance for our Muslim pupils to share their life with the class.

English

The 1001 Arabian Nights

We read a selection of the tales and learn about the clever young bride, Sheherazade. We look at the style of writing, including the language, settings and characters, as well as the way each story is framed. We then put all our findings together to write our own versions of an Arabian Nights tale.