7th Grade Social Studies

Middle East Government Unit Information

Milestones Domain/Weight: Government/Civics 20%

Purpose/Goal(s):

The intent of this unit is for students to increase their knowledge and understanding of the government characteristics of Southwest Asia (Middle East). Students will examine the governance and distribution of power in the region, specifically the government of the countries listed in the standard. The students are expected to identify the type of leadership and how this person becomes the country’s leader. In order to identify the role of the citizen, students will refer back to their previous unit on governance and determine what role the citizen plays in the government.

Content Map: Middle East Content Map (includes all domains)

Middle East's Government Teacher Notes

Prerequisites: No elementary standards for the Middle East’s Government/Civics

Unit Length: Approximately 8 days

Middle East Study Guide [all concepts] | Middle East Study Guide KEY

Click on the links below for resources by Essential Question:

EQ 5: What are the similarities and differences in leadership, voting rights, and personal freedoms in Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Iran?
## Essential Question and Standard(s)

5. What are the similarities and differences in leadership, voting rights, and personal freedoms in Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Iran?

**Standard:**

SS7CG5a. [Standard Breakdown] Compare the parliamentary democracy of the State of Israel, the monarchy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the theocracy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, distinguishing the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

## Vocabulary

- Essential*
- Monarchy
- Theocracy
- Parliamentary democracy

**Supplemental**

- Chief of State
- Head of Government

*Essential Vocabulary listed in the GPS Standards

**Supplemental Vocabulary listed in the state frameworks and/or other state document

## Resources [Back to Top]

The Enduring Understanding(s) for this lesson: **Governance and Distribution of Power** - The student will understand that as a society increases in complexity and interacts with other societies, the complexity of the government also increases. The student will understand that distribution of power in government is a product of existing documents and laws combined with contemporary values and beliefs.

- Middle East Government ppt
- Governments of the Middle East Activating Strategy
- Government Matching Pair Cards – review the basic government standards by having students match cards of definitions with terms
- Middle East Governments Chart
- Middle East Government Triple Comparison
- Differentiation: Governments of the Middle East Frames. There are two versions of the Frames. One set has characteristics that the students use to describe the three governments of the Middle East. One version is blank where the students determine the characteristics to describe each government of the Middle East.
- Governments of the Middle East Summarizer
- Additional Resources:
  - Enrichment Activity [“You Do”] - for students to work on while teacher is working with remediation group for differentiation
  - Flipbook activity and fact-book summarizer [“You Do”] - where students can explore online on various sites
  - Southwest Asia Civics Webquest [“You Do”]

## Assessment

- SS7CG5a. Sample Assessment Items
SS7CG5a. Compare the parliamentary democracy of the State of Israel, the monarchy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the theocracy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, distinguishing the form of leadership and the role of the citizen in terms of voting rights and personal freedoms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Know:</th>
<th>Understand:</th>
<th>Do:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• The term ceremonial leader refers to a person who holds the title as the highest leader of a country but has no real political power.</td>
<td>• Voting rights for men and women are not equal.</td>
<td>• Compare and contrast the governments of Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Iran (DOK 2).</td>
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| • Israel:  
  o It is a unitary system.  
  o It has a parliamentary democracy.  
  o Citizens 18 and older get to vote for members of the legislature.  
  o The leader is the Prime Minister (head of government).  
  o The president is the head of state (ceremonial leader). | • Israel:  
  o It is most similar to the United States in its leadership, voting rights, and personal freedoms. | • Evaluate characteristics found in charts and/or texts to identify the appropriate country (DOK 3). |
| • Saudi Arabia:  
  o The king is the leader (head of government).  
  o It is a monarchy.  
  o Men and women are allowed to vote. | • Saudi Arabia:  
  o The King’s power is limited by Islamic Law.  
  o Succession is hereditary.  
  o Women were just recently given voting rights (2015).  
  o While citizens get to vote, the King maintains complete authority to override any decision. | • Distinguish the form of leadership, voting rights, and personal freedoms in Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Iran (DOK 2). |
| • Iran:  
  o It is a theocracy.  
  o It has a presidential system.  
  o Government is based on Islamic Law.  
  o The Supreme Leader is the chief of state (ceremonial leader).  
  o The president is the head of government. | • Iran:  
  o The Council of Experts is elected by popular vote.  
  o The Supreme Leader is elected by the Council of Experts.  
  o The Supreme Leader has more power than the president. |