



Why was the Islamic Civilisation around 900 AD known as the Golden Age?

HISTORY
Year 5
Spring Term

Overview

For around a thousand years, a vast Islamic civilisation spread from Baghdad, through North Africa and into Spain. At a time when many wars were raging in Europe, the Islamic Empire was a place of general peace. Learning and knowledge was placed at the centre of life in Baghdad, which became the cultural capital of the world. Many scholars travelled there to share, research and advance their knowledge. Baghdad began to attract people from all parts of the world to trade, study and work. Many of the achievements of the Islamic civilisation still affect our lives today. In this unit, we will explore how The Golden Age of Baghdad influenced our world today.



Knowledge & Understanding

In this unit, the pupils will:

- Describe key aspects of a non-European society (the Early Islamic Civilisation).
- Identify where Early Islamic civilisation fits into a chronological framework.
- Describe links and contrasts within and across different periods of time.
- Summarise what Britain may have learnt from other countries and civilisations through time gone by and more recently.

History skills

In this unit, the pupils will:

- Use a wide range of primary and secondary sources as a basis for research.
- Recognise how we gather our knowledge of the past from a range of primary and secondary sources.
- Evaluate sources and make simple inferences.
- Respond to historical questions and hypotheses by selecting and evaluating relevant sources.
- Choose relevant ways to communicate different historical findings.

Home – school link project

During this topic, pupils can choose to:

- Build 'The Round City' or draw a diagram of it. Use Google to research how it looked.
- Create a factfile of things scholars would have studied. Include: algebra, chemistry, medicine and the Qu'ran

Topic Vocabulary

algebra – the part of mathematics in which letters and symbols are used to represent numbers and quantities

Caliph – in Islam, the spiritual and political leader of a Muslim country

Golden Age - a period of cultural, economic, and scientific flourishing in the history of Islam

chemistry – branch of science that studies the properties of matter and substances

civilisation – a society or group of people or the process of achieving a higher state of social development

Islamic – relating to the religion of Islam, which teaches that there is only one God and that Muhammad is the messenger of God

Muslim – a follower of the Islamic religion

prophet – a person who teaches a message they believe has been sent by God

scholar – a person who has studied a subject and knows a lot about it

Working Historically

AD (Anno Domini) – after Jesus was born

artefact – an object made by a human being, typically of historical interest

BC (Before Christ) – before Jesus was born

chronology – in time order

evaluate – to determine the value and worth of a historical source

historical evidence – a piece of information that can help us understand the past

historian – a person who studies or writes about the past

source (primary/secondary) – a piece of writing or an object that historians can use to find out about the past