



History Benchmark Achievements Senior History – Middle East

Ages 12+

Objectives at this age:

Organize historical events and personalities into an “anchor-date” timeline

Create an “anchor-date” binder organized by the 10 key dates, personalities, and events for Middle Eastern history. The binder should include the following:

- Divider tabs for each anchor date
- Key personalities and events for each anchor date
- Detailed map of the region referred to with the stories, events and personalities of each anchor date
- Combination of student-created stories, narratives, essays, and research papers associated with the anchor date

Upon completion of the binder, students will have identified and recorded a minimum of 40 facts for each hook date. Please note that reports, essays, stories and maps will easily include multiple facts.

Hook Dates, Personalities, and Key Events for students to consider for their history binder:

A.D. 33: Key personalities - Jesus Christ and Eleazer Ben Jair **Key Events – Fall of Jerusalem and Remember the Masada**

For student research and study:

- Herod the Great
- Roman conquest of Judah
- Events that led to the destruction of Jerusalem
- The Roman interlude
- Who was Josephus?
- The story of Masada
- The Virgin Mary
- The Angel Gabriel
- The Twelve Apostles
- The Apostle Paul

- Roman Law
- Jewish traditions
- Passover
- Shepherds of the Holy Land
- Pharisees
- Sadducees
- General Titus
- Pontius Pilate
- Nero
- The Fall of Rome
- Books of the New Testament
- Peter
- Corinth
- Hebrews
- Han Dynasty of China
- Roman Law
- Parthian Empire
- Emperor Claudius
- Emperor Vespasian
- Emperor Tiberias
- Emperor Nero
- Emperor Caligula
- Herod's Southern Palace
- Vesuvius Volcano
- The City of Pompeii

A.D. 133: Key Personalities - Simon Bar Cocheba and Emperor Constantine
Key Events – Jews are scattered and the spread of Christianity

For student research and study:

- The rise of Simon Bar Cocheba
- The scattering of the Jews and the destruction of Jerusalem
- The history of Judah and Joseph; The Ynglings
- Emperor Constantine the Great
- The Edict of Milan
- Council of Nicaea, First Ecumenical Council

- Synagogue
- Wailing Wall
- Mishnah
- Talmud
- Israelites
- Ishmaelites
- Midianites
- Lost Tribes
- Settling of Europe
- Caucasus Mountains
- Black Sea
- Star (or shield) of David
- Ptolemaic System
- Daniel's Dream (Daniel 2)
- Fall of Rome
- Emperor Hadrian (117-138)
- Queen Helena
- Troy
- Hushan
- Dynasty of India
- Persian Empire
- Hinduism

A.D. 600: Key Personalities – Mohammed and Charlemagne

Key Events – Rise of the Islam Religion; Roman Catholic Church rules Europe

For student research and study:

- Muhammad – Founder of Islam
- The Islam Religion
- Events in Europe before Charlamagne
- The conquest of Italy
- Charlemagne – Founder of the Holy Roman Empire
- Alcuin of York
- Allah
- Dome of the Rock
- Ishmael

- Hagar
- “Chosen People”
- Koran
- Bahira
- Arabs
- Jihad
- Mecca
- Story of Jacob and Esau (Edom)
- Battle of Tours
- Invasion of Europe
- Ghana Empire
- The Vikings
- Byzantine Empire
- Far East
- Middle Ages
- Roman Catholic Church
- Medieval Cultures
- Knights
- Barons
- Lords and Ladies
- Armor
- Coat of Arms
- Arab Nations

A.D. 1200: Key Personalities – King John and Sultan Saladin

Key Events – March of the Crusaders; Muslims makes peace treaties

For student research and study:

- The Crusader period
- Sultan Saladin – Saintly Muslim Hero
- The Battle of Hattin
- Ruler’s Law and the Middle Ages
- Life in Europe during the Middle Ages
- The end of Feudalism
- The beginning of the Renaissance
- King Richard and King John

- Knights
- The Children's Crusade
- Constantinople (or Istanbul)
- Byzantine Empire
- Peter the Hermit
- Legends of Robin Hood
- The Magna Charta
- Marco Polo
- William the Conqueror
- The Black Death of 1348
- Old Mother Goose
- Henry VIII
- Turks
- Venetians
- Silk
- Mali Empire
- Fall of the Byzantine Empire
- Mamelukes
- China
- Southeast Asia
- Scandinavia
- The Hundred Years' War
- Tower of Pisa
- Roger Bacon
- Westminster Abbey
- Windsor Castle
- Explorers of 1400s
- Castles
- Chivalry
- Johannes Gutenberg
- Minstrels

A.D. 1492: Key Personalities – Christopher Columbus and Martin Luther
Key Events – The Moors expelled from Spain; Diverse Religions split Europe

For student research and study:

- Who were the Moors?
- The significance of 1492 – seeking trade routes
- The “Christ-bearer”: Christopher Columbus
- Marco Polo
- The Reformation Period
- The Life of Martin Luther (1483)
- The influence of Roger Bacon
- Michelangelo
- William Shakespeare
- Johannes Gutenberg
- Gutenberg Printing Press (1450)
- Vasco de Gama (1497)
- Ferdinand and Isabella
- The Battle of Granada
- Spanish Inquisition
- Ottoman Empire
- The Lavant
- Protestants
- Lutheran Religion
- John Wesley
- Methodist religion
- Russian Czars
- The Renaissance
- The Reformation
- Petrarch (1374)
- Nicolaus Copernicus (1473)
- Mogul Empire
- Henry VIII (1491)
- Abel Tasman (1642)
- Vitus Bering (1727)
- James Cook (1768)

A.D. 1841: Key Personalities – Orson Hyde and Theodore Herzl

Key Events – Beginning of Zionism; The Jews seek a home

For student research and study:

- Orson Hyde’s dedicatory prayer of Palestine
- Zionism – Seeking a homeland
- The birth of modern Israel
- Alfred Dreyfus
- The Dreyfus Affair
- Theodore Herzl – Father of Zionism
- American Jews and the First Zionist Congress
- Israel’s National Flag
- Mamelukes
- Ottoman Empire
- Zionists
- History of Palestine
- European Scientists – 1800s
- European Inventors – 1800s
- European musicians – 1800s
- European artists – 1800s
- European writers – 1800s
- European philosophers – 1800s
- European military heroes – 1800s
- Haskalah
- Czar Alexander II
- Sir Moses Montefiore
- Lt. Col. George Picquart
- Emile Loubet
- Emile Zola
- Major M. Charles Esterhazy
- Uganda
- Louis D. Brandeis
- Fiddler on the Roof (shows how political events in the early 1900s drove the Jews from Russia, some returning to Palestine)
- Music of the Jewish people

- Anti-Semitism
- Judaism
- Galut
- Hannukah

A.D. 1917: Key Personalities – Chaim Weizmann and Vladimir Lenin

Key Events – Zionism is recognized; Russian Czars are supplanted

For student research and study:

- Balfour Declaration
- Chaim Weizmann
- Palestine Arabs revolt
- Jewish underground movement
- Vladimir Lenin
- Origin of the Bolsheviks
- The Bolshevik Revolution
- Leon Trotsky
- Karl Marx
- Communism
- The Communist philosophy of nature
- The Communist drive on youth
- The British League of Nations
- General Edmund Allenby
- Turks
- Winston Churchill
- King of Iraq
- Jas-Amin
- World War I
- British occupation of Israel
- Aliyah
- Asher Zvi
- Ginsburg
- Kibbutz
- Menorah
- The Treaty of Versailles
- Russo-Japanese War

- Joseph Stalin
- Chinese Revolution
- Chiang Kai-shek
- Fall of the Ottoman Empire
- Socialism
- Fascism
- Pablo Picasso
- The Blue Riders
- Ivan Petrovich Pavlov

A.D. 1948: Key Personalities – David Ben-Gurion and Winston Churchill

Key Events – Israel gains independence; Europe is torn by World War I

For student research and study:

- David Ben-Gurion – First Prime Minister of Israel
- The World War II Era
- The Holocaust
- Sir Winston Churchill
- Pearl Harbor
- Significant dates and events of World War II
- Adolf Hitler
- Nazis
- Gypsies
- Palestinian Refugees
- United Nations
- League of Nations
- “Aryan”
- Pogrom
- Nuremburg Trials
- Bigotry
- “euthanasia”
- U.N. Resolution 181
- Zionist Congress
- World War II
- Communist China
- Spanish Civil War
- Korean War

- Charles DeGaulle
- Mao Tse-Tung
- Southeast Asia
- Japan
- General Patton
- D-Day
- V-J Day
- NATO

A.D. 1967: Key Personalities – Moshe Dayan and Yasir Arafat
Key Events – A Victory for Israel; Rise of PLO in Israel

For student research and study:

- Moshe Dayan
- Israel's Fantastic Victory (1967)
- 1967 Israel Borders
- Terrorism and the PLO
- Yasser Arafat
- Arafat exposed as a Soviet Agent
- Israel-PLO war in Lebanon
- Origin of Palestinian Refugees
- Abdul Nasser
- Suez Canal
- King Hussein
- King Faisal
- Abba Eban
- Britain
- Six-Day War
- Levi Eshkol
- Arabs
- Russia
- United States in the 1960s
- Weapons of War
- Anwar Sadat
- Menachem Begin
- Third World countries

- Golda Meir
- Mahatma Gandhi
- Yom-Kippur War
- Camp David Treaty
- Warsaw Pact
- European Common Market
- Terrorists
- Mafia
- Current economics of Israel
- Current products of Israel
- Current tourist trade in Israel
- Current political situation in Israel

A.D. 1991: Key Personalities – Saddam Hussein and Mikhail Gorbachev
Key Events – The invasion of Kuwait; End of the Cold War

For student research and study:

- The Persian Gulf War
- Iraq
- Iran
- Kuwait
- Mikhail Gorbachev
- The Berlin Wall
- New World Order
- General H. Norman Schwarzkopf
- General Collin Powell
- Future Israel
- Coalition of Partners
- George Bush
- “Gulf War Syndrome”
- Republican Guard
- Bagdad
- Afghanistan War
- Iran-Iraq War
- Struggles of the Soviet Union to maintain power
- Natural disasters of the 1990s

- International Debt
- Chernobyl Disaster
- Bosnian War
- Soviet Power of the Baltics
- Islamic Fundamentalism
- Palestinian Refugees
- Cold War and Communism
- Yalta Conference