



Cloth and Culture: The Rich Tapestry of Medieval Al-Andalus

Grade: 10-12

Subject: ELA

Time Frame: 1 class.

Materials: Laptops or printed article, pencils, projector, whiteboard, and whiteboard markers.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will explore the significance of textiles in medieval Al-Andalus, including materials, weaving techniques, and cultural influences. They will learn about textiles as a form of currency, social class distinctions in clothing, and the exchange of textile traditions across regions and cultures.

Behavioural Objective:

- Students will gain a better understanding and appreciation about diverse communities around the world highlighting the rich history of Muslim Spain.

Activating:

- Ask students what they know about Spain - consider using a world map and invite one of the students to point Spain for their peers.

Applying:

- Continue by sharing the [article](#) with your students. Working in pairs or in smaller groups is also an option.
- Students could use a highlight to underline unknown words and debrief collective.

Assessment:

- Afterwards, provide students with the following worksheet encouraging them to reflect and summary the article on "Textiles" in Muslim Spain.
- Conclude the lesson by inviting students to share something new they learned either in class or providing them with a recipe card.

Food for Thought:

- 1001 Inventios and Awesome Facts from Muslim Civilizations by National Geographic Kids is a great resource to enhance this lesson plan. From discussing fashion trends to contribution in sciences and arts, the book highlights the contribution of Muslim civilizations around the world.

Student Name: _____

Cloth and Culture: The Rich Tapestry of Medieval Al-Andalus

Reflecting Questions

1. In a brief summary, explain the key aspects covered in the article regarding the significance of textiles in medieval Al-Andalus, including the materials used, weaving techniques, cultural influences, and their impact on trade and social classes.
2. What were some of the commonly traded fabrics in medieval Al-Andalus?
3. What distinguished the clothing of the wealthy ruling classes from that of ordinary people in terms of textiles?
4. What was the luxury fabric of choice in Al-Andalus, known for its complex patterns?
5. How did the tradition of brocade weaving and the use of Arabic inscriptions in textiles expand in Muslim-ruled territories?
6. Which city in Al-Andalus became a prominent center for textile manufacturing, with thousands of active looms?
7. What were some of the important fabric dyes used in Al-Andalus, and where did they come from?
8. How did the textiles of Al-Andalus influence other regions in Europe?