

The Abrahamic Religions: Monotheistic Faiths

Learning Objective: What role do the Abrahamic Religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam play in the development of the Great Middle East?

Monotheism, the belief in one god, plays a critical role in the religious landscapes of the Great Middle East. The major monotheistic faiths of the world (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) all trace their origins to this region through the common ancestor of Abraham. Abraham lived and traveled in the areas that are now modern day The Fertile Crescent, The Levant, and the Arabian Peninsula.

Scenario: create a product that would either be appropriate for a book in an elementary or secondary school library that teaches about one of these monotheistic religions. Examples of products: website, book, poster, collage, etc.

Who? (The Founder and Important Events in His Live; Key Figures and Their Accomplishments)

When? (Started; Important Dates, Holidays, and Observances)

Where? (Place of Origin; Holy/Sacred Sites)

What? (Basic Beliefs; Define) [Judaism: The Ten Commandments; Christianity: The Trinity; Islam: The Five Pillars of Faith]

How? (Practices; Traditions)

Why? (The Appeal)

Evaluation

Evaluation	Excellent (9-10)	Good (7-8)	Acceptable (5-6)	Marginal (3-4)	Unsatisfactory (1-2)
Presentation/Product					
1. Effective oral communication. (Appropriate volume and eye-contact.)					
2. Effective written communication. (Appropriate grammar, punctuation, mechanics and spelling.)					
3. Creativity and originality are evident					
4. Effective use of Show (images) and Tell (text)					
Content					
5. Organized in a narrative (story) format					
6. Addressed all the questions listed above					
7. Each question supported by details and examples					

Other Options: Arab-Israeli Conflict; Shiite-Sunni; Regional Politics; History (Egypt, Mesopotamia, Islam); Art and Architecture