

# History

A non-European society that provides contrasts with British History—one study chosen— early Islamic Civilisations, including study of Baghdad c.AD.900  
Why? You are studying this topic so that you realise that a thousand years ago Baghdad was the largest city in the whole world. Famous not only for its size, the city and the whole of the Islamic kingdom were known for exceptional achievements in science and astrology. When there are some people in Britain today who attacked Muslims, it is important to understand their culture and history so that you realise that 1,000 years ago this was a Golden Age when major advances were being made in medicine and learning. Schools, observatories, libraries, hospitals and universities were ahead of what was happening in Britain at the time.

Early Islam:

Emphasis on comparison with Britain at the same time.

Concept of Empire— link with previous learning— Roman Empire, Greek Empire— Anglo Saxons and Vikings were not an empire.

How did Islamic Empire influence medieval England?

What made early Islamic civilisation different from Britain at the time?

Waddington Primary School  
Spring in Year 6

Narrative:

Step into a timeline, stretching across the world. On one side you see British History including early medieval Britain: small kingdoms arguing, villages rebuilding after battles, and people living very local, simple lives. But if you slide your finger across the timeline to World History, to a different place. Here you find something completely different happening at the very same time. A civilisation rising, buzzing with new ideas, discoveries and learning. This was the Early Islamic Empire, a world that for many years hardly appeared in Western history books. Historians sometimes call this the "Missing Millennium" or the "Dark Ages".

Our story begins in Arabia, with Muhammad. His teachings brought different tribes together and gave them a shared identity. After his death, the community he helped to create grew rapidly. Caliphates formed. Each one with its own rulers, its own style of leadership and its own culture. As the empire expanded, the world changed with it. Now, let's travel to the heart of this empire, you reach Baghdad, a magnificent Round City unlike anything in Britain at the time. At its centre stood the House of Wisdom, a place where scholars from many backgrounds worked side by side. Here they translated old books, studied the stars, experimented with medicines and invented new ideas. These ideas that still shape our world today.

While Baghdad glowed with learning and trade, life in Britain looked very different. Knowledge was limited, towns were small and most people rarely travelled beyond their local area. Meanwhile, Baghdad was connected to lands far away. Baghdad was sited along the Silk Roads in a central position. It enabled trade to reach the sea along the river Tigris. Trade took the form of goods and ideas. Islam spread and became the dominant religion along the trade

In this world, doctors wrote detailed medical books, mathematicians developed algebra, and scientists made observations that helped future generations. Their achievements reached far beyond their own time.

Why was Early Islamic Civilisation so different from Britain at the time?  
The answer lies in its values: a deep respect for learning, a commitment to preserving and expanding knowledge, and a belief that ideas could improve life for everyone. This identity created a legacy still visible today..

Authentic outcome: Presentation to expert History Teachers from secondary schools



# Waddington Primary School Spring in Year 6

## English

Author Study : Malorie  
Blackman

As authors, we will be inspired by the writing of Malorie Blackman. In reading a variety of her books, we shall write in her style; write about her characters; write a letter to a character and write a letter to the author, herself. This will enable us to develop skills for writing character description, to write in character and to show the difference skills needed for writing informative and persuasive letters.

Later in the term we will use Jurassic Park as a stimulus for writing suspense narrative and write explanation texts on our science learning.

## Poetry

We will read the book Cloud Busting by Malorie Blackman, which is written as poetry as well as write our own poetry in a given style: narrative poetry about how we see ourselves - linked to PSHE.



## Reading

Our reading lessons are mapped to our science learning on the circulatory systems as well as reading extracts from classic fiction and spooky openings to develop inference skills and practise evidencing our ideas using the text to support our thinking.

## Maths

Year 6 will be looking at long Multiplication and Division using both formal and informal methods. We will move on to investigate Fractions, Decimals and Percentages including finding fractions and percentages of amounts, the connections between fractions, decimals and percentages and applying this using all four methods of calculations. During geometry we will look at Area and Perimeter and Position and Direction

## Science

This term, year 6 will study the circulatory systems, within our topic of Animals including Humans. We will investigate how exercise affects heart rate, as our enquiry. Later in the term we will study Evolution and Inheritance focusing on Darwinism and investigating how Moth and Finches have adapted for survival.





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## Art

In Art we are looking at Degas' Figure Drawing, observing movement and technique in his artwork. We will use pencil and water colour to create our own ballerinas focusing on proportion, composition and observation.

## PSHE

In PSHE we are focusing on, living in the wider world. What it is to belong; looking at communities and belonging. Additionally, we will focus on media literacy, digital resilience and money and work.

## French

This term we are 'At the tea room' developing vocabulary to be able to order food and drink at the cafe with our final outcome having a French cafe in the classroom.

## Computing

Variables in games  
Introduction to  
spreadsheets

## PE

Gymnastics  
Dodgeball  
Badminton  
Hockey

## RE

Christianity  
Creation Stories

## Commando Joe

## Kira Salak

American writer,  
adventurer and  
journalist.

## Music

This term we focus on Composition and  
— recording through film music and —  
theme and variations with a stimulus of Pop

Art

## Experience Days

- French Cafe
- Parent Pop In - Art
- Secondary School history teacher visits