

# TIME FOR KIDS AROUND THE WORLD

## TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR JORDAN



### READING TIPS

**After Reading** Have students brainstorm a list of what they learned about Jordan. Then have them list questions that they have about the country and its people. **Ask:** What's one source you might use to find answers? (*a website, an encyclopedia, an atlas, a nonfiction book or an expert*) **Activity:** Have students research a question and report their findings, then compile their work into a class book.

### EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

#### SOCIAL STUDIES



**Culture Club** As students read this issue of *Around the World*, focus their attention on culture. **Ask:** What does the word *culture* mean? What are some things that tell you about the culture of a country or a group of people? Examples include language, food, clothing and religion. **Activity:** Have students identify examples of Jordanian culture. Ask them to draw comparisons to American culture. Use a Venn diagram to categorize the similarities and differences.

**Muslim Traditions** Tell students that most people in Jordan are Muslim, and that Muslims follow a religion called Islam. It is one of the world's major religions. Ramadan is one of the most important times of the year for Muslims. During Ramadan, Muslim adults fast throughout the day, from sunrise to sunset, eating small meals before dawn and at night only. (Children are not required to fast, though they sometimes do for part of the day.) Charity, kindness and goodwill are emphasized. The end of Ramadan is marked by a three-day holiday called Eid al-Fitr (eed al *fit-tur*). **Activity:** Learn more about Ramadan

and Eid al-Fitr. Check out books from your local library or do research online.

**Ask:** How are the traditions of Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr similar to or different from other holidays that you know about, such as Christmas, Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or Three Kings Day?

#### LANGUAGE ARTS



**Peace Plans** After reading "A Royal Quest for Peace" (page 7) have students discuss the question that appears on the bottom of the page. **Activity:** Have each student write and illustrate a handbook that highlights five ways in which education can be used to promote peace.

#### ARTS



**Make a Mosaic** A mosaic is a picture made up of tiny colored stones or tiles. The Mosaic Map, which sits on the floor of a church, in Madaba, Jordan, is the oldest known map of the Middle East. It is made up of about 2 million tiny colored stones. **Activity:** Have students make a mosaic of their neighborhood. In place of tiles, use pieces of cut or torn construction paper. Students should sketch a plan before starting, then use chalk to plot their design on large sheets of construction or butcher paper.

**Border Art** The border art that appears in this issue of *Around the World* is based on traditional Jordanian art, architecture and textiles. The border on pages 2 and 3 (seen below) is modeled after a *kaffiyeh*, a headdress worn by Arab men. The red-and-white style is most popular in Jordan. Made of cotton, the *kaffiyeh* protects the wearer from heat and sun.



ILLUSTRATION BY DREW WILLIS

### RESOURCES

#### Books

*Jordan (Enchantment of the World Series)* by Patricia K. Kummer (Children's Press, 2006). Learn about Jordan's history, land and people.

*Ramadan: A Muslim Time of Fasting, Prayer and Celebration (Finding Out About Holidays Series)* by Carol Gnojewski (Enslow Elementary, 2004). All about the Muslim holy month of fasting.

#### Websites

[cia.gov](http://cia.gov) Background on Jordan's history, government and more.

### ANSWER KEY

#### Jordan's History (p. 4)

1. 106 A.D.
2. 62
3. Abdullah I
4. 1994; 14

#### Map It Out (p. 5)

1. Answers may include *Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Israel*.
2. about 150
3. Answers may include *Ajlun, Qasr Kharana, Karak and Shobak*.
4. false
5. northeast

#### Jordan's Growing Population (p. 8)

1. 45.9%
2. false
3. younger than 14
4. 15–39 years

#### Teacher's Guide Super-Salty Water

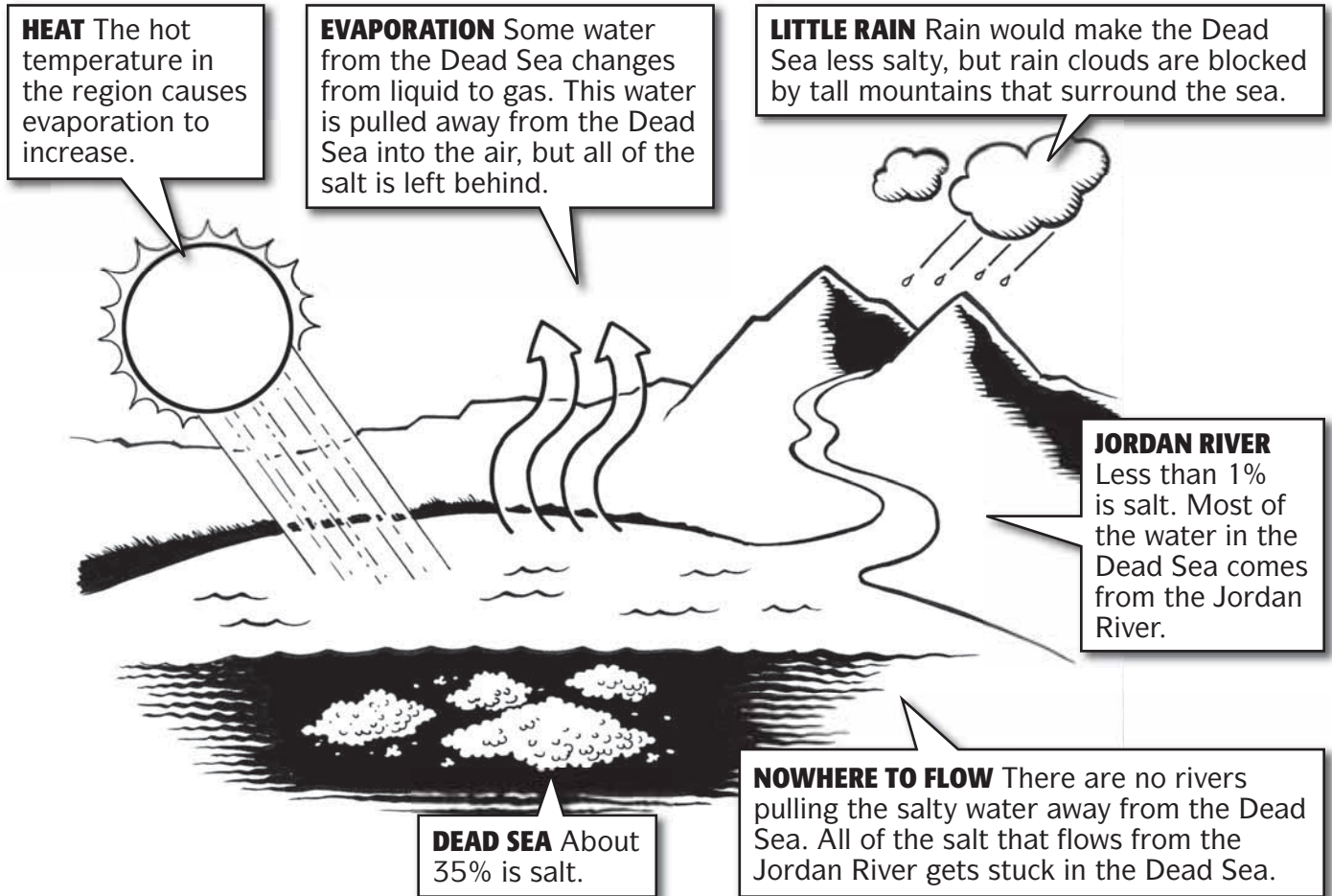
1. the Jordan River
2. evaporation
3. The rain is blocked by mountains.
4. It is called the Dead Sea because the water is so salty that animals cannot live in it.
5. Answers may include *The salt that flows into the Dead Sea from the Jordan River gets stuck because there are no rivers pulling the salty water away; evaporation pulls water away from the Dead Sea, but the salt is left behind.*

[timeforkids.com/jordan](http://timeforkids.com/jordan)

Have students visit the website to take the Jordan Challenge. Students can submit their answers to this online quiz and get instant answers.

# SUPER-SALTY WATER

The Dead Sea has some of the saltiest water on Earth. It is called the Dead Sea because it is so salty that no animals can live in it. To find out how it got so salty, look at the diagram. Then answer the questions below.



1. From what river does the Dead Sea receive most of its water? \_\_\_\_\_
2. The process that changes water from liquid form to gas form is called \_\_\_\_\_
3. What prevents most rain from reaching the Dead Sea? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why is this body of water called the Dead Sea? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Explain why the water of the Dead Sea is so salty. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_