UKS2 Topic: Early Islamic Civilisation

Block B:
The Rise of Islamic Civilisation

Session 5

Resource pack

Pro-forma for research notes on key early Islamic conquests.

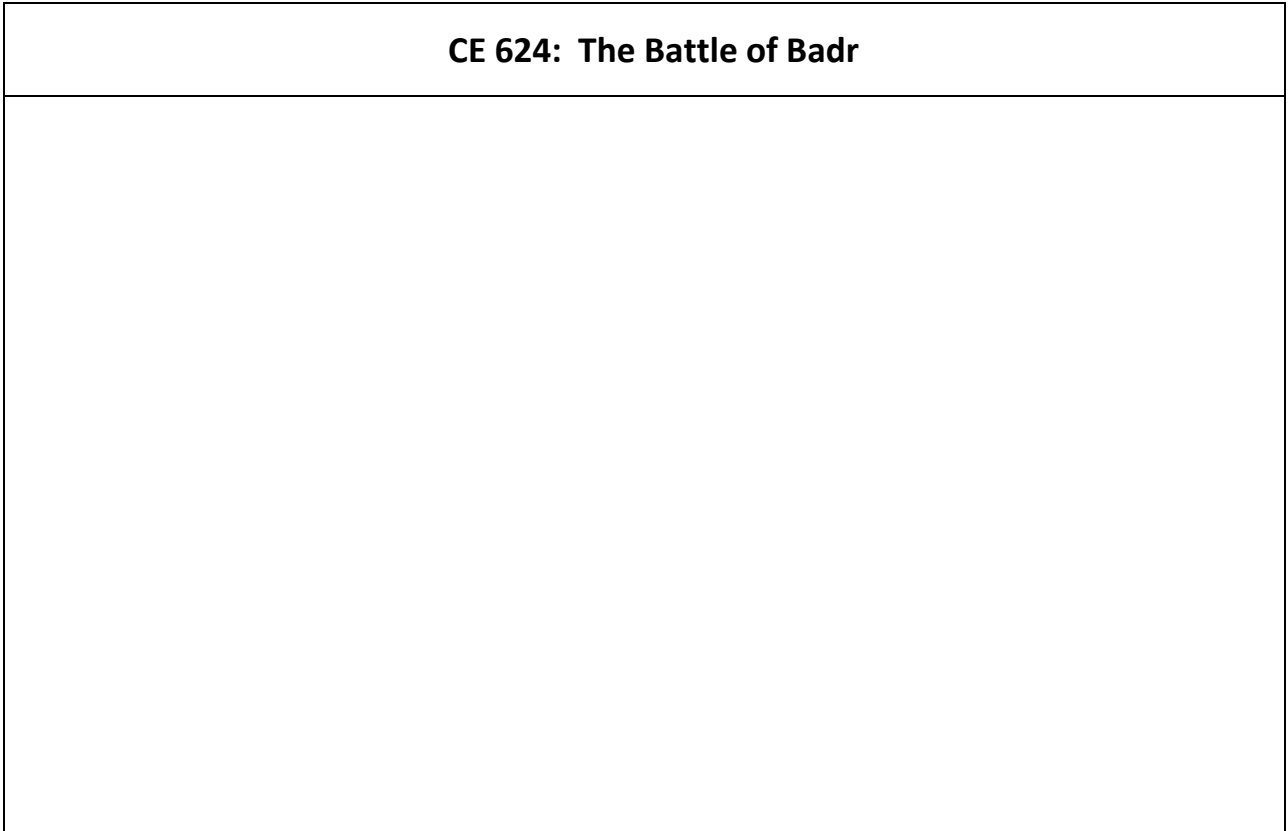Use this grid for research notes on key early Islamic conquests.

Read information carefully, then *try to make notes in your own words*.

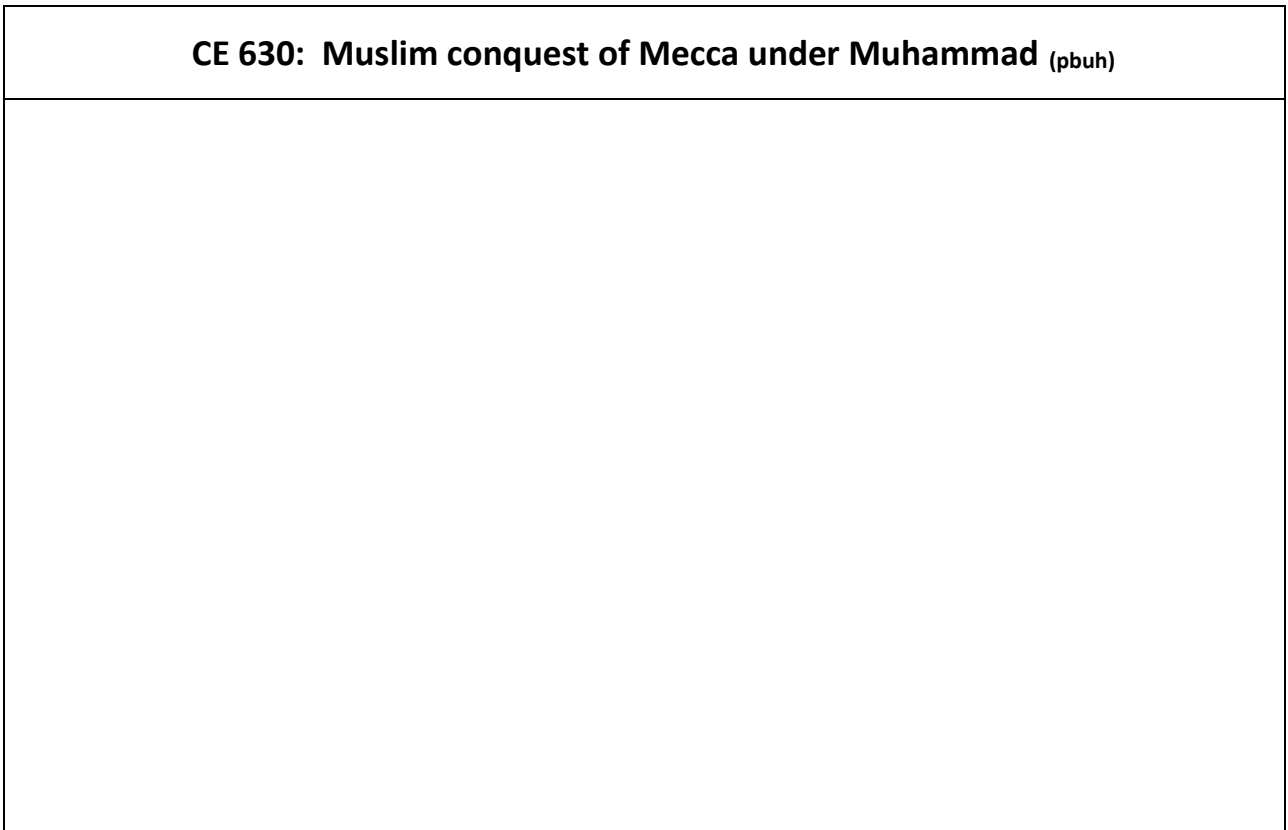| Date	Event	Source of information

Pro-forma for writing about and illustrating key early Islamic conquests.

Suggestions of key early Islamic conquests that some children might use:

CE 624: The Battle of Badr

CE 630: Muslim conquest of Mecca under Muhammad (pbuh)

CE 634-644: Umar begins expansion of the Islamic empire

**CE 644-656: Uthman expands the empire into North Africa
and takes over the Sasanid empire**

CE 711: General Tariq leads Muslim forces into the Iberian Peninsula (Spain and Portugal)

CE 749: After a period of unrest between ruling Arab *Umayyads* and ordinary citizens, Abu al-*Abbas* is made caliph. The *Abbas*ids move the capital from Damascus to Baghdad and go on to rule for >500 years.

1. **A very interesting presentation of the ebb and flow of peoples across the centuries, *ca.* 2000 BCE – CE 2000, is presented in the image (snapshot below) at:** http://www.datavis.ca/gallery/images/timelines/sparks1931-histomap.jpg

Reading across the diagram reveals who was in power at the same time in many different geographical areas. How much of this you share with the children is very much at your discretion.

2. **Detailed information on a wide range of world historical events (*pre* CE 501 - present day) can be found at: http://www.fsmitha.com/t-index.html#anchor5, for example:**

   702: *Drawing from the Chinese and Confucianism, the Japanese have established new laws – the Taiho Code. The emperor is seen as having supreme moral authority and as a benevolent ruler. His ministers and bureaucrats are viewed as agents of morality. It is believed that without this moral authority the immorality of feuding local lords would reign. Local lords, it is believed, should submit to the emperor's rule for the sake of peace. Accompanying this centralized authority, a national tax system is devised.*

   705: *Empress Wu has proclaimed a new dynasty of her own family line. She has lowered taxes for farmers, and agricultural production has risen. She has strengthened public works. But by 705 she is in her old age and has lost control at court. Officials at court force her to resign in favor of a member of the Tang family – the return of the Tang Dynasty.*

   708: *In China, boiled water is safer to drink than untreated water, and tea becomes popular accompanied by the belief that tea has medicinal properties.*

   710: *Japan's emperor moves the capital from Osaka to the city of Nara in order to avoid the pollution of his predecessor's death.*

   711: *A Muslim army crosses the Strait of Gibraltar and begins a conquest of Spain. Jews welcome them as liberators. An Arab ship is plundered by pirates near the mouth of the Indus River, and the Arab governor in Mesopotamia retaliates, sending an expedition, said to include 6,000 horses and 6,000 camels, to conquer the rajas of Sind.*

   712: *The new Tang emperor, Zhongzong, has died and his wife, Empress Wei, is suspected of having poisoned him. She has tried to rule as had Empress Wu. She has sold offices and Buddhist monkhoods. She has created enemies whom she has failed to exterminate, and they oust her from power.*

   717: *Arabs have conquered eastward across land to the western border of China. They have conquered Lisbon and in the Caucasus, including Armenia. Caliph Omar II grants tax exemption to all believers. Wealth has been gathered from looting the wealthy during conquests and by taxing non-Muslims.*

   718: *Constantinople, ably led by a general called Leo the Isaurian, has held off Muslim attacks by land and sea for more than a year. Leo is now Emperor Leo III. South-Central Europe is to remain Christian.*