

Jewel of Muscat

Activity Sheet: Advanced History

In ancient times information about foreign lands came from travellers who shared their stories when they returned home. In Arabian history Sinbad the sailor is an example. It is a fictional collection of stories handed down by Arab sailors during the period between 700 and 1000 AD. These stories tell of the adventures of travelling the seven seas, visiting new lands, and meeting strange new animals.

In modern times we don't need to wait for tales from returning travellers. We can travel at lightning speed around the world with the help of the Internet, to learn about other people and other cultures.

The two countries involved in the Jewel of Muscat project were Oman and Singapore. You can find information about them on these websites:

Oman: www.omanet.om

Singapore: www.gov.sg

1. In groups, use these official websites and the Jewel of Muscat site as starting points, compile a timeline outlining some of the important events in the histories of each country since the time when Arab sailors first went to sea on their trading voyages to the East.

Here are some dates to include in your timeline:

- 1365 Singapore was called Temasek in the epic poem "Javanese Nagarakretagama". Temasek means "sea town" in Javanese.
- 2010 The Jewel of Muscat sailed from Oman to Singapore.

Illustrate your timeline with drawings, diagrams, maps, etc.

2. Present your timeline to the class/another class/the school assembly/parents.

3. Compare the timelines to decide which has the most effective choice of events to clearly portray the country's history.