

NATO Summit in Türkiye (July 7, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

What? A major NATO summit, an alliance of countries that unite to ensure their security and protect each other.

Who? The heads of state and government of the 32 NATO member countries, including Canada, gathered around Secretary General Mark Rutte.

Where? In Ankara, the capital of Türkiye, at the grand presidential palace.

When? On July 7 and 8, 2026.

Why is it important? Because these countries decide together how to protect themselves, how much to invest in their militaries, and how to continue supporting Ukraine.

For this activity, your goal will be to learn a little more about NATO.



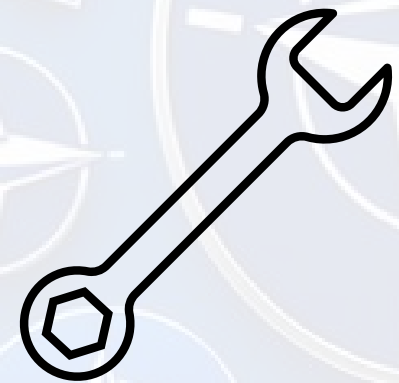
OBJECTIVES

- Discover what NATO is and what it does
- Understand the principle of common defense (Article 5)
- Distinguish between member countries, from founding members to the most recent
- Locate member and non-member countries on a map
- Explore NATO's partners and operations



SUBJECTS

- **Social Studies/Geography**
 - Europe and North America
 - International Alliances
 - Map Reading
- **Social Studies/History**
 - The Creation of NATO (1949)
 - The Post-World War II Era
- **English**
 - Reading and Comprehension
 - Short Answers
 - Information Research



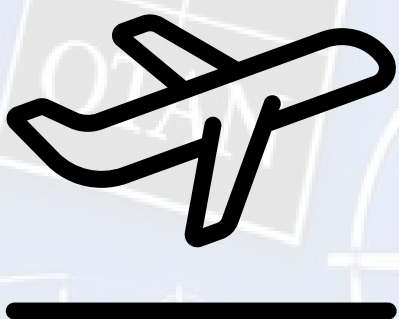
COMPETENCIES

- Search for and interpret information
- Read and interpret an interactive map
- Organize your ideas
- Produce short and precise answers



DURATION

- Approximately 60 minutes



GETTING STARTED

- Ask the students if they have ever heard of NATO and what the name means to them.
- Locate on a map the two continents where the member countries are located (North America and Europe).
- Discuss: Why do countries choose to unite for defense?
- Connect this to current events: A major summit has just brought together their leaders.

NATO Summit in Türkiye (July 7, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — Discover NATO. Learning about the alliance through a video, and answers to five questions.

Q1 — The North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Q2 — In 1949.

Q3 — 32 member countries.

Q4 — If a member country is attacked, all the others come to its defense.

Q5 — The organization of the Olympic Games.

STEP 2 — An Exclusive Club. Exploration of the member countries page on the NATO website and guessing game.

Q6 — 12 countries at the start.

Q7 — Belgium.

Q8 — Sweden.

Q9 — Canada.

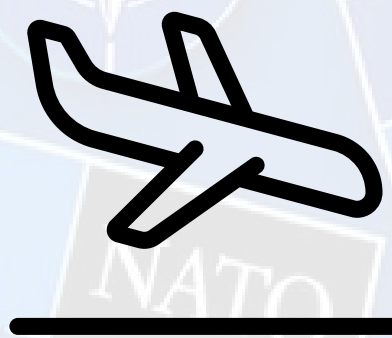
STEP 3 — NATO in Action. Exploration of an interactive map (members, partners, operations) and answers to three questions.

Q10 — Switzerland, Austria, Ireland, and a few others.

Q11 — The European Union and the OSCE.

Q12 — Operation Sea Guardian.

WRAPPING UP



- Conduct a group discussion about what the students have learned about NATO.
- Discuss: Why do countries in North America and Europe choose to unite?
- Ask them what surprised them most (the number of members, Article 5, the operations).
- Make connections between geography, history, and current events.

FURTHER EXPLORATION



 *NATO Facts For Kids. DIY*
www.diy.org/article/nato



NATO Summit in Türkiye (July 7, 2026)



Alfa, Bravo, Charlie... The Secret NATO alphabet!

Have you successfully completed the three steps? Congratulations! Here's an extra challenge to take things even further. This time, you won't just discover NATO: you'll learn its secret alphabet and use it to write coded messages! Why a secret alphabet?

An airplane pilot speaks on the radio, with a lot of noise around. If he says "B" or "D", his message risks being misunderstood: these letters are too similar! To avoid errors, NATO countries adopted a special alphabet in 1956. Each letter is associated with an easy-to-recognize word. So, instead of saying "B", we say "Bravo", and instead of "D", we say "Delta". Impossible to go wrong!



THE NATO ALPHABET



A clear system to communicate
letter by letter, around the world.

A Alfa α	B Bravo 👍	C Charlie 💬	D Delta △	E Echo 🔊	F Foxtrot 🦊	G Golf ⛳
H Hotel 🏨	I India 🕌	J Juliett J	K Kilo KG	L Lima 🏔️	M Mike 🎤	N November 📅 NOV 30
O Oscar 🏆	P Papa 👨👩	Q Quebec 🌿	R Romeo ❤️	S Sierra 🏔️	T Tango 💃	U Uniform 👔
V Victor ✌️	W Whiskey 🥃	X X-ray 👁️	Y Yankee 🎩	Z Zulu 🌿		

AN EXAMPLE

The word BIRD is spelled Bravo – India – Romeo – Delta.



★ SIMPLE • UNIVERSAL • EFFECTIVE ★

Challenge 1 — Spell your first name using the NATO alphabet.

Challenge 2 — Decode this secret message: Papa – Echo – Alfa – Charlie – Echo. What word is hidden behind these four letters?

Challenge 3 — Your turn! Write the name of your country using the NATO alphabet.



What does the NATO flag tell us?

The NATO flag is entirely blue, with a white compass inside a circle. Each part has a meaning:

- The blue represents the Atlantic Ocean, the one that connects North America and Europe.
- The circle represents unity: the member countries remain together.
- The compass shows the direction the alliance follows: the path to peace.