Election in Israel (October 28, 2026)

TEACHING GUIDE

ℹ️ **What?** Elections in Israel, where citizens cast their votes to choose the 120 members of their parliament, the Knesset. 🗳️

👤 **Who?** Israeli voters and political parties, including the party of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and that of his main opponent, Gadi Eisenkot.

🌍 **Where?** In Israel, a Middle Eastern country located along the Mediterranean Sea.

🕰️ **When?** On Tuesday, October 27, 2026.

❓ **Why is it important?** Israel is going through a difficult period, and these elections allow citizens to choose who will lead the country in the years ahead.

🎯 **For this activity, your goal will be to learn a bit more about Israel.**

OBJECTIVES

- Locate Israel on a world map and fill out its fact sheet
- Locate two seas and three major cities of Israel on a map
- Explore three holy sites of Jerusalem in a virtual tour: the Western Wall, the Dome of the Rock, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- Understand why Jerusalem is important to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Discover the origin and meaning of the Star of David, at the center of the Israeli flag

COMPETENCIES

- Search for and select information online
- Read and interpret a map
- Carefully observe an image or a virtual tour
- Read and understand an informational text
- Recognize geometric shapes
- Show openness to the diversity of beliefs

SUBJECTS

- **Social World / Geography**
  - Locating a country and its cities
  - Reading a map
  - A country's fact sheet
- **Culture and Religions**
  - Holy sites of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
  - Religious and national symbols
  - Respect for the diversity of beliefs
- **Mathematics**
  - Classifying triangles
  - Polygons (octagon)
- **English**
  - Reading an informational text
  - Finding information

DURATION

- Approximately 45 minutes

GETTING STARTED

- Ask the students if they know where Israel is and what they know about this country
- Ask them what an election is and why it is important to vote
- Ask them if they know of a city that is important to several religions at once
- Show the Israeli flag and ask them what they think the symbol in the center represents

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STEP 1 — Locating Israel. Research on Israel's Wikipedia page to fill out a fact sheet, followed by locating two seas and three cities on a map using Google Earth.

Fact sheet — Capital: Jerusalem, which Israel considers its capital (a status not recognized by most countries). Area: about 22,000 km². Population: about 10 million. Official language: Hebrew (Arabic has a special status). Currency: the new shekel.
Q1 — The Mediterranean Sea.
Q2 — The Dead Sea.
Q3 — Jerusalem.
Q4 — Tel Aviv (Tel Aviv-Jaffa).
Q5 — Haifa.

STEP 2 — Jerusalem, Holy City of Three Religions. Virtual tour of three holy sites of Jerusalem on the 360TR website, followed by three observation questions.

Q6 — Larger. (The lower stones date back to the time of King Herod, about 2,000 years ago.)
Q7 — 7 arches. (Accept 6 if the student does not count the arch over the door.)
Q8 — 1810. (The year the chapel surrounding the tomb was rebuilt after a fire.)

STEP 3 — The Star of David. Reading of an informational text on the Star of David, followed by five multiple-choice questions.

Q9 — Six.
Q10 — In 1948.
Q11 — The Jewish prayer shawl.
Q12 — Shield of David.
Q13 — Equilateral. (The star is made of two intersecting equilateral triangles.)

WRAPPING UP

- Review what the students have learned as a group
- Discuss what surprised them the most (the giant stones of the wall, the golden dome, the year carved in the tomb)
- Explain that no group won a majority and that the parties must negotiate; ask the students why it is hard to reach an agreement
- Invite the students to compare this with how elections work in their own country

FURTHER EXPLORATION

📖 Jack L. Roberts and Michael Owens. *A Kid's Guide to Israel*. Curious Kids Press, 2023

