

Ramadan and the Religion of Islam

Lesson Ideas from Lisa Adeli, University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies

1. Use one or more of the following books. (Note: All these books can be borrowed from the Outreach office at CMES or easily found in local libraries.)

- Demi. *Muhammad*.

A beautifully illustrated book on the beliefs of the Muslim religion. Grades: 4-7.

- Ghazi, Suhaib Hamid. Illustrated by Omar Rayyan. *Ramadan*.

Describes the Muslim holiday of Ramadan. Grades: 1-3.

- Hoyt-Goldsmith, Diane. Photographed by Lawrence Migdale. *Celebrating Ramadan*.

Bright color photographs help tell the story of a 4th grade Muslim boy living in New Jersey as he celebrates the Muslim holiday of Ramadan. Grades: 3-7.

- Khan, Hena. Illustrated by Julie Paschkis. *Night of the Moon*.

A brightly illustrated story about a girl waiting for the moon to signal the holiday.

- Khan, Rukhsana . Illustrated by Patty Gallinger. *Muslim Child: Understanding Islam through Stories and Poems*.

A collection of Muslim stories with sidebars explaining important terms and issues. Grades 3-6.

- Matthews, Mary. Illustrated by E.B. Lewis. *Magid Fasts for Ramadan*.

About an 8-year-old Egyptian boy who wants to fast like the grown-ups during the Muslim month of Ramadan. Grades 2-4.

- Mobin-Uddin, Asma. Illustrated by Laura Jacobsen. *The Best Eid Ever*.

A story about a girl who learns the joy of helping less fortunate children during the holiday.

- Penney, Sue. *Islam*. (several versions)

This author has several books by the same name. Each of them gives an overview of the Muslim faith. Grades 2-6.

2. Muslim beliefs. See the picture file (included) for pictures that can be used in PowerPoint format or printed onto overheads. You can use any or all of them, according to your needs and the age level of your students. Note that there is an explanation for each picture – and a background on the Muslim religion - in a document entitled “Notes on Pictures – and the Muslim Religion.”

3. Fact sheet on Ramadan. Overview (included) of the most important Muslim holiday.

4. Activities. See the “Activities” document for a description of art projects, language activities, and other projects that can be done in conjunction with this lesson.