

# **Lesson Plan: "Petra: The Rose Red City of Jordan"**

**Age Group:** 7-12 years

**Duration:** 45-60 minutes

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## **Objective:**

Students will learn about the ancient city of Petra, its unique rock-cut architecture, historical significance, and cultural impact as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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## **Materials Needed:**

- Video: "Petra: The Rose Red City of Jordan"
  - Photos of Petra (including Al-Khazneh/the Treasury)
  - Chart paper or whiteboard
  - Markers
  - Craft supplies (clay, playdough, or modeling materials)
  - Fact sheet about Petra
  - Petra map or diagram
  - Computer/Tablet for virtual exploration
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## **Introduction (5-10 minutes):**

### **1. Greeting & Introduction:**

- Start with: "Today, we are going on an adventure to one of the most incredible ancient cities in the world, Petra!"

### **2. Brief Discussion:**

- Ask students if they have ever heard of Petra or know where Jordan is located. Show them where Jordan is on a map.
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## **Main Activity (30-40 minutes):**

### *1. Watch the Video (5-7 minutes):*

- Play the video tutorial: "Petra: The Rose Red City of Jordan."
- Encourage students to focus on the architecture, its history, and the importance of Petra in the ancient world.

### *2. Discussion & Activities (20-30 minutes):*

- **Carved in Stone:**
  - Discuss how Petra's buildings, temples, and tombs were carved directly into red sandstone cliffs.
  - **Activity:** Create a mini "Petra" model using clay, playdough, or modeling materials. Have students carve simple "structures" inspired by Petra's architecture.
- **Ancient Capital:**
  - Explain the role of Petra as the capital of the Nabataean Kingdom and its importance as a trade hub.
  - **Activity:** Use a map of the ancient trade routes to show how Petra connected the East and West. Discuss what goods might have passed through the city.
- **The Treasury:**
  - Show pictures of Al-Khazneh (the Treasury), one of the most famous landmarks of Petra. Discuss its intricate carvings and its possible use as a tomb or temple.
  - **Activity:** Have students draw or craft their own version of the Treasury with attention to detail, based on photos.
- **The Lost City:**
  - Tell the story of how Petra was abandoned, forgotten, and later rediscovered by Johann Ludwig Burckhardt in the early 19th century.
  - **Activity:** Write a short paragraph or draw a picture about what it would be like to "discover" a hidden city like Petra.
- **UNESCO World Heritage Site:**

- Explain why Petra is a UNESCO World Heritage site and why it is considered one of the most visited tourist attractions in Jordan today.
  - **Activity:** Discuss the importance of preserving historical sites and why Petra is important to the world's history and culture.
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## **Conclusion (5-10 minutes):**

### **1. Recap Key Points:**

- Review what was learned about Petra's rock-cut architecture, its history as an ancient trade hub, and its status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### **2. Q&A:**

- Invite students to ask questions and share their thoughts about Petra.

### **3. Reflection:**

- Discuss why Petra continues to amaze visitors and what makes it stand out among other ancient cities.

### **4. Closing Activity:**

- End with a brief activity where students share one fact they found most fascinating about Petra and why.
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## **Extension Ideas:**

- **Virtual Tour:** Take a virtual tour of Petra online to give students a more immersive experience of the ancient city.
  - **Research Project:** Have students research other UNESCO World Heritage sites and compare them to Petra in terms of architecture and historical significance.
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This lesson plan is designed to engage students with the history, architecture, and cultural importance of Petra, making the exploration of this ancient city an exciting learning experience.

