

Teacher Notes

Jolt your children into content-area reading success!

Synopsis

Istanbul: East Meets West offers a fascinating description of the history of this strategically located city. The book examines the city's importance in the meeting of Eastern and Western cultures. It concludes with a photo tour of modern Istanbul.



Vocabulary Development

Read and discuss the high-powered words on page 4 prior to reading the book.

The high-powered words for this book are:

Christian, conquer, continent, Crusader, Muslim, secular, strategic.

Reading Assessment Focus

Understand, describe, select or retrieve information, events or ideas from texts and use quotation and reference to text:

- use devices, such as maps and time lines, to discover Istanbul's history.

Identify and comment on the structure and organisation of texts:

- understand that the chronological organisation of this book helps convey information about Istanbul's history.

Before Reading – Get on the Wavelength

- Read the title and the questions on the back cover to the children. As they view the cover illustration, ask them how old they think the buildings are. Using an atlas or globe, show them where Istanbul is located. Help them understand that the city is located on two continents – Europe and Asia.
- As the children browse through the book, highlight some of the features, including the use of maps, illustrations, artwork and modern photographs. Talk about the blend of different styles of architecture.

Ask: *What might these different styles tell you about the history of Istanbul?*

SHOCKER

During Istanbul's long history, 60 fires and 50 major earthquakes have caused great destruction. In AD542, 60 per cent of the population were killed by a plague.