

# Ramadan for Educators

[Main source](#)

**Here are some Suggested well researched tips and culturally accurate resources about Ramadan for Educators:**

**-Acknowledge Diversity Within Islam:** Understand and convey to students that Muslims come from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. It's important to avoid generalizations and stereotypes, recognizing that the Islamic faith spans a wide range of cultures and nations.

- Activity suggestion: Interactive Map Activity: Have students research and pin Muslim populations and cultural expressions on a world map, highlighting the global nature of the faith.
- Various early and upper elementary [Ramadan activities](#) from TPT
  - Reading children's books like:
    - [Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns](#) by Hena Khan
    - [Crescent moon and Pointed Minarets](#) Hena Khan
    - [The Gift of Ramadan](#) By Rabiah York Lumbard

**-Be Mindful of Energy Levels:** Recognize that fasting students may have lower stamina for physical and mental tasks, especially in the initial days of Ramadan. Adjust expectations accordingly and provide support as needed.

- Suggestion: Alternative Assessments: Consider offering project-based learning or self-paced activities to accommodate varying energy levels.

**-Homework and Academic Considerations:** Given that students might spend more time in religious activities, consider flexibility with homework and assignments. Encourage students to utilize non-fasting hours or school-provided times for completing their work to balance their spiritual and academic needs.

- Flexible Deadlines: Offer extended deadlines for assignments or allow students to work on them during non-fasting hours.
- Study Sessions: Provide opportunities for supervised study sessions outside of class time to support students with catching up or completing assignments.

**-Respect Fasting Exemptions:** Be aware that not all Muslim students will be fasting due to valid exemptions (such as young age, health issues, or travel). Treat these situations with sensitivity and privacy, avoiding assumptions or unnecessary attention.

- Private Discussions: if needed have individual conversations with students about their fasting status and preferred approach in the classroom.
- Anonymous Activity: Conduct an anonymous survey to understand the needs and preferences of different students within the class.

**-Educational Resources:** Instead of asking students to educate their peers about Ramadan, use vetted resources to inform and engage the class. This approach respects the students' role in the classroom and supports inclusive learning.

Informative Videos: Show age-appropriate videos about Ramadan traditions and customs from reputable sources.

[Brainpop Ramadan](#)- [What is Ramadan](#) & [Ramadan for Kids](#) (upper elementary) Twinkl Education publishing

[What is Ramadan](#) for 6-12 grades [clickview.net](#)

- Interactive Learning Activities: Use online quizzes or games based on reliable information to engage students in learning about Ramadan in a fun and informative way.
  - [Quiz from Middleeasteye.net](#) ([Quiz](#) linked here) (high school age +)
  - [Ramadan quiz](#) General fun facts Similar one to the above from Beano.com
  - Upper elementary appropriate [quiz](#)
  - Interactive fun [quiz wordwall](#)

**-Eid Awareness:** Recognize that the end of Ramadan marks the celebration of Eid al-Fitr, a significant and joyous occasion for Muslims. Awareness and acknowledgment of this festival can foster a sense of inclusion and respect.

(be mindful of scheduling exams and due dates on Eid. Celebrations and cultural activities may span over 3 days total) Provide alternative options to students.

- Class Discussion: Discuss the significance of Eid al-Fitr and the traditions associated with this joyous occasion. Make sure everyone remains respectful to the differences in culture and practices.
- Creative Project: Have students create greeting cards or decorations commemorating Eid and share their understanding of the celebration with their peers.
  - [Free customizable](#) Eid Greeting cards (adobe)
  - Customize an EID Greeting Card (Canva)
  - Twinkle Education [Printable Templates for Eid](#) Card
  - Little Owl provides a range of [lower elementary Activities](#)

**-Promote Understanding Among All Students:** Even in the absence of Muslim students in your classroom, discussing Ramadan and its significance can enhance cultural awareness and empathy among all students.

- Literature Exploration: Read and discuss stories written by Muslim authors or featuring Muslim characters to foster empathy and understanding.
- Cultural Sharing: Encourage students from different cultural backgrounds to share their traditions and celebrations with the class.

Here is a great and very reliable source from the [Yaqeen institute](#) to learn all about Ramadan for highschool aged and adults

**-Alternative Lunch Arrangements:** Offer Muslim students the option to spend their lunch period in a quiet, separate space if they prefer. This consideration helps accommodate their fasting and provides a comfortable environment for personal or religious activities.

- Designated Quiet Space: Set aside a quiet corner in the classroom or library for students who wish to spend their lunch time in a more peaceful environment.
- Collaboration with Parents: Discuss options with parents regarding alternative lunch arrangements for their children, if desired.

**-Supportive School Environment:** Ensure that the school environment supports the needs of fasting students, including providing spaces for prayer and rest, and being flexible with physical education requirements. Foster an inclusive atmosphere where students feel their cultural and religious practices are respected and valued.

- Prayer Room: Work with the school administration to designate a space for prayer, if possible, ensuring it is accessible and respectful.
- Adapted PE Activities: Modify physical education activities to accommodate those who are fasting or offer alternative options like meditation or yoga.

**-Encourage Empathy and Inclusion:** Use this opportunity to encourage empathy, understanding, and inclusion among all students. Highlighting the importance of respecting diverse practices and beliefs can contribute to a more harmonious and supportive school community.

- Role-Playing Activity: Have students role-play situations where they practice empathy and understanding towards diverse practices and beliefs.
- Positive Reinforcement: Acknowledge and applaud students who demonstrate respectful and inclusive behavior towards their peers during Ramadan and throughout the year.