The Establishment of Israel Timeline Activity

Part I

- Put students in groups of 2-3
- Each group should receive a set of timeline strips. The teacher can cut out the timeline strips and put them in baggies or clips. Or, the students can cut out the timeline strips before they start
- Students work together to place the strips in chronological order. Not all of the statements on the strips have dates. The students will need to make inferences to organize all of the statements. However, the purpose is not for students to learn the chronological order of the events. Rather, students should get a general idea of the events over time that played a role in the establishment of the state of Israel and the continuing conflict it causes.
- When a group is ready, give them Part II of the activity. Students should use the chronological timeline to check the order of their timeline strips.

Part II

- Part II of the activity can be completed after Part I or it can be completed instead of Part I. However, if students only complete Part II of the activity, they are less likely to make connections between the events.
- The timeline strips can be taken up. Groups should use the Establishment of Israel Timeline to answer questions.
The Establishment of Israel Timeline Activity: Part I

A. The region of Palestine becomes the largely Muslim Turkish Ottoman Empire.

B. Arabs are not happy because they resent having a Jewish presence on what they consider Muslim religious territory (from the time of the Ottoman Empire).

C. Prejudice and discrimination against Jews grows in Europe.

D. The United Nations proposes a Partition Plan to divide Palestine into a Jewish and Arab state.

E. Israel has peace treaties with some Arab states, a “truce” with a few Arab states, and is still in conflict with other Arab states.

F. In the 11th century, the kingdom of Israel is established in the region of Palestine.

G. The Ottoman Empire is partitioned and Palestine is mandated to Britain in 1922.

H. 1939-1945 World War II and the Holocaust occur

I. The kingdom of Israel is captured and a few centuries later Jerusalem is destroyed. Jewish people scatter throughout the world.
The Establishment of Israel Timeline Activity: Part I

J. Jewish prophets encourage people to believe that they will one day return to their homeland.

K. Britain asks the United Nations to handle the situation in Palestine.

L. World War I ends in November of 1918. The Ottoman Empire falls (Arabs helped Britain capture Palestine from the Ottoman Empire in 1918).

M. The independent nation of Israel is born.

N. In 1923, the British Mandate of Palestine is divided into two areas. One area, Palestine, is intended for Jewish people. Another area, Trans-Jordan is intended for Arab people.

O. Palestinians deny the right of Israel to exist. Israel attacked by its Arab neighbors (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq) the day after it is established.

P. Waves of Jewish immigrants pour into Palestine to escape rising persecution in Europe.

Q. Following World War II, Jews want to enter Palestine, but Britain has stopped Jewish immigration because it made promises to both Jewish and Arab groups of people that it could not keep.
The Establishment of Israel Timeline Activity: Part II

The Kingdom of Israel is captured and a few centuries later Jerusalem is destroyed. Jewish people scatter throughout the world. [I]

The region of Palestine becomes the largely Muslim Turkish Ottoman Empire. [A]

Arabs are not happy because they resent having a Jewish presence on what they consider Muslim religious territory (from the time of the Ottoman Empire). [B]

Waves of Jewish immigrants pour into Palestine to escape rising persecution in Europe. [P]

Following World War II, Jews want to enter Palestine, but Britain has stopped Jewish immigration because it made promises to both Jewish and Arab groups of people that it could not keep. [Q]

The United Nations proposes a Partition Plan to divide Palestine into a Jewish and Arab state. [D]

Palestinians deny the right of Israel to exist and upon being established Israel is attacked by its Arab neighbors (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq). [O]

In 11th century, the kingdom of Israel is established in the region of Palestine. [F]

Jewish prophets encourage people to believe that they will one day return to their homeland. [J]

World War I ends in November of 1918. The Ottoman Empire falls (Arabs helped Britain capture Palestine from the Ottoman Empire in 1918). [L]

In 1923, the British Mandate of Palestine is divided into two areas. One area, Palestine, is intended for Jewish people. Another area, Trans-Jordan is intended for Arab people. [N]

Prejudice and discrimination against Jews grows in Europe. [C]

1939-1945 World War II and the Holocaust occur. [H]

Britain asks the United Nations to handle the situation in Palestine. [K]

The independent nation of Israel is born. [M]

Israel has peace treaties with some Arab states, a “truce” with a few Arab states, and is still in conflict with other Arab states. [E]
The Establishment of Israel Timeline Activity: Part II

Name ______________________________ Date __________ Period ____

1. Why do both Jews and Arabs believe they have “rights” to the area known as Palestine?
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Cite evidence from the timeline to support your answer above. _________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

2. Why do Jews believe they have the right to return to their homeland? ______________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Cite evidence from the timeline to support your answer above. _________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

3. In your opinion, why does the establishment of the state of Israel cause conflict? ______
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Cite evidence from the timeline to support your opinion. ______________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________