

## **iCONN Learning Activity Afghanistan**

**Level:** Middle School

**Task:** A middle school social studies class is exploring the impact of various government leadership styles on the daily life of the average citizen in the country. Students work in small groups, each group being assigned a type of government, and identify the impact on citizens in one or more countries have that type of government. One group of students decided to look at Afghanistan and several aspects of daily life (role of women, religion, civil rights, education, economy, etc.) and culture before October 2002 and how people's lives have changed since the war beginning October 2001.

**Research Question:** Which aspects of life in Afghanistan will remain the same after the ousting of the Taliban and why; what will change dramatically and why?

**Content Area(s):** Social Studies; Language Arts; Learning Resources and Information Technology

**Content Standards:**

**Social Studies:**

7. Students will explain that political systems emanate from the need of humans for order, leading to compromise and the establishment of authority.
9. Students will use spatial perspective to identify and analyze the significance of physical and cultural characteristics of places and world regions.

**Language Arts:**

2. Students will produce written, oral and visual texts to express, develop and substantiate ideas and experiences.

**Learning Resources and Information Technology:**

3. Students will demonstrate a command of information skills and strategies to locate and use effectively print, nonprint and/or electronic resources to solve problems, conduct research and pursued personal interests.
4. Students will apply evaluative criteria to the selection, interpretation, analysis, reorganization and synthesis of information from a variety of sources and formats.

**iCONN Database:** *InfoTrac Junior Edition*

**Search Strategy**

1. Click on *InfoTrac Junior Edition*
2. Click on *Advanced Search*
3. Type **Afghanistan** in the search box
4. Click on the box labeled *Search for full text articles only*
5. Click on *Find*
6. Click on *Check Out* to read articles

**Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:**

**iCONN Database:** *Expanded Academic ASAP* or *InfoTrac Student Edition*

**Search Strategy**

1. Click on *Expanded Academic ASAP* or *InfoTrac Student Edition*
2. Click on *Subject Guide*
3. Type **Afghanistan** in the search box
4. Click on the bullet labeled *before* and use the pull down menus to select *1 October 2001*
5. Click on *Search* then click on *Narrow* by subdivision and choose a subheading that fits the assignment – such as *Civil Rights* or *Education*
6. Click on *View x articles* to see citation list
7. Click on hyperlink next to *View* to read articles
8. Click on *Back to Search*, click on bullet labeled *after* and use the pull down menus to *September 20, 2001* and select *Search*
9. Click on *Search* and click on *Narrow* by subdivision and choose the same subheading as in step 5

**iCONN Database:** *Kids InfoBits*

**Search Strategy**

1. Click on *Kids InfoBits*
2. Type **Afghanistan** in the search box and click on Search.
3. Select one of the subject groups listed (Afghanistan, Afghanistan History, etc.) and click on *View*.
4. Click on any one of the labeled tabs (Reference, Magazines, etc.) to get a list of documents in that category.
5. Click on highlighted document title in the citation list to read an article.