

Unit 2: Ancient Mesopotamia/Egypt

Essential Questions

- How have technological advancements determined the success and/or failure of civilizations throughout history and which technological advancements have had the most profound impact on the historical record?
- Why (and in what ways) is man's ability to manipulate the environment so fundamental to the ability to develop and sustain large-scale civilizations?
- In what ways are political systems influenced by and a reflection of a society's location and place?
- Why have every known large-scale civilization developed a written code of law?
- How can the arts (written, performance, architectural, etc.) be used to better understand the beliefs, values, and histories of past civilizations?
- How did the various religions of the Middle East impact the development, longevity, and decline of ancient civilizations and how have they continued to impact the modern World?

Common Assessments:

- Pre-Assessment
- Project
- Quiz(minor)
- Final Assessment

- totally get it
- sort of get it
- I don't get it

Enduring Understanding Students will understand that...

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● H.2.3 - Technological advancements in agriculture allowed the first civilizations to develop. Irrigation systems in Egypt and Mesopotamia led to increased food production. ● G.1.1 - The Nile River and the Tigris/Euphrates Rivers allowed civilizations to develop. They are also the cause of the Egyptian and Sumerian differences politically, economically, and culturally. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● C&G.1.4 - The Babylonian legal system (Hammurabi's Code) is the oldest known in writing. Written legal systems are important for maintaining an orderly and just society. ● C.1.1 - Egyptian and Sumerian art and architecture is a reflection of the importance of their religious beliefs in every aspect of their lives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● C.1.2 - Judaism is the earliest known monotheistic religion and it represented a fundamental departure from the polytheistic belief systems of the Middle East at that time. Jewish beliefs and practices continue to have a dramatic effect on people around the world. ● C&G.1.2 - The Egyptian's theocratic, dynastic system evolved as a result of their reliance on the predictable flooding patterns of the Nile. The Sumerian city-states resulted from unpredictable flooding and drought. |
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Vocabulary Master

● Fertile Crescent	● Mesopotamia	● Empire	● Hammurabi's Code
● Sahara Desert	● Mediterranean Sea	● Red Sea	● Dynasties
● Pharaohs	● Polytheistic	● Monotheistic	● Judaism
● Palestine	● Israel	● City-State	● Alphabet

Week 1-2 Mesopotamia/Quiz
Week 3: Egypt/Final Assessment

Week 4: Culminating Project/Present