

**Belvidere Cluster Wide  
Social Studies Curriculum  
6th Grade  
Updated November, 2018**

**All Belvidere Cluster curriculum and instruction areas are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLs) in accordance with the NJ Department of Education's curriculum implementation requirements.**

**Interdisciplinary Connections**

English Language Arts  
Mathematics  
Science/Next Generation  
Technology  
Visual and Performing Arts

Technology Standards and Integration  
iPads/Chromebooks  
Online resources  
Interactive SmartBoard activities

NJSLA Technology

8.1.2.A.2

Create a document using a word processing application.

8.1.2.A.4

Demonstrate developmentally appropriate navigation skills in virtual environments (i.e. games, museums).

8.1.P.B.1

Create a story about a picture taken by the student on a digital camera or mobile device.

8.1.P.C.1

Collaborate with peers by participating in interactive digital games or activities.

8.1.2.E.1

Use digital tools and online resources to explore a problem or issue.

**CAREER EDUCATION  
(NJDOE CTE Clusters)**

Education & Training  
Finance  
Information Technology  
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

**21st Century Skills/ Themes**

Global Awareness  
Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy  
Civic Literacy  
Health Literacy  
Environmental Literacy  
Creativity and Innovation  
Critical Thinking  
Problem Solving

Communication  
Collaboration  
Information Literacy  
Media Literacy  
ICT (Information, Communication and Technology) Literacy

CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.  
CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.  
CRP3. Attend to personal health and financial well-being.  
CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.  
CRP5. Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.  
CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.  
CRP7. Employ valid and reliable research strategies.  
CRP8. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.  
CRP9. Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.  
CRP10. Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.  
CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.  
CRP12. Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.

### **Reading and Writing Companion Standards**

RH.6-8.1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

RH.6-8.2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

RH.6-8.3. Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).

RH.6-8.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

RH.6-8.5. Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).

RH.6-8.6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).

RH.6-8.7. Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.

RH.6-8.8. Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.

RH.6-8.9. Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

RH.6-8.10. By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

WHST.6-8.2. Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes.

- A. Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information using text structures (e.g. definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g. headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension.
- B. Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- C. Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- D. Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- E. Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
- F. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.

WHST.6-8.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

WHST.6-8.5. With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.

WHST.6-8.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.

WHST.6-8.9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

WHST.6-8.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

### **Integrated Accommodations and Modifications**

#### **Special Education**

- Printed copy of board work/notes provided
- Additional time for skill mastery
- Assistive technology
- Behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- Check work frequently for understanding
- Computer or electronic device utilization
- Extended time on tests/ quizzes
- Have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- Highlighted text visual presentation
- Modified assignment format
- Modified test content
- Modified test format
- Modified test length
- Multiple test sessions
- Multi-sensory presentation
- Preferential seating
- Preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- Secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- Shortened assignments
- Student working with an assigned partner
- Teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes
- Cubing activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Think-Pair-Share
- Varied supplemental materials

#### **ELL**

- Allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- Teaching key aspects of a topic
- Eliminate nonessential information
- Using videos,

illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify  
allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slideshows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning  
Allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)  
Allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing  
Decreasing the amount of work presented or required  
Having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes  
Modifying tests to reflect selected objectives  
Providing study guides  
Reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test  
Tutoring by peers  
Explain/clarify key vocabulary terms

### **At Risk**

Allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)  
Teaching key aspects of a topic Eliminate nonessential information allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slideshows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning  
Allowing students to select from given choices .  
Allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing  
Collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test  
decreasing the amount of work presented or required .  
Having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes  
Marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes  
Modifying tests to reflect selected objectives  
Providing study guides  
Reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test  
Tutoring by peers  
Using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving  
Using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests  
using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify  
Flexible grouping  
Goal setting with students  
Jigsaw  
Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills Open-ended activities  
Think-Pair-Share  
Varied supplemental materials

### **Gifted and Talented**

Alternative formative and summative assessments  
Choice boards  
Games and tournaments  
Group investigations  
Independent research and projects Interest groups for real world application  
Learning contracts  
Leveled rubrics  
Multiple intelligence options  
Personal agendas  
Project-based learning

Problem-based learning  
Stations/centers  
Think-Tac-Toes  
Tiered activities/assignments  
Tiered products\_\_\_\_\_

**504**

Printed copy of board work/notes provided  
Additional time for skill mastery  
Assistive technology  
Behavior management plan  
Center-Based Instruction  
Check work frequently for understanding  
Computer or electronic device utilization  
Extended time on tests/ quizzes  
Have student repeat directions to check for understanding  
Highlighted text visual presentation  
Modified assignment format  
Modified test content  
Modified test format  
Modified test length  
Multiple test sessions  
Multi-sensory presentation  
Preferential seating  
Preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary  
Reduced/shortened written assignments  
Secure attention before giving instruction/directions  
Shortened assignments  
Student working with an assigned partner  
Teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet  
Use open book, study guides, test prototype  
Exploration by interest  
Flexible grouping  
Goal setting with students  
Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills  
Open-ended activities  
Think-Pair-Share  
Varied supplemental materials

**Grade 6**

# Unit #1 Beginnings of Human Society

Content Area: **Social Studies**

Course(s): **Social Studies**

Time Period: **September**

Length: **30 days**

Status: **Published**

## Enduring Understanding

---

Hunter/gatherers adapted to their physical environments using resources, the natural world, and technological advancements. The agricultural revolution led to an increase in population, specialization of labor, new forms of social organization, and the beginning of societies.

## Essential Questions

---

1. How does physical and human geography contribute to the development of human history?
2. How did the agricultural revolution, domestication, innovation and technological advancements affect human society?
3. How did the development of written and unwritten language impact development of human understanding, culture and social structure?

## NJ Student Learning Standards

---

SOC.6.2.8.C.1.b	Determine the impact of technological advancements on hunter/gatherer and agrarian societies.
SOC.6.2.8.B.1.a	Explain the various migratory patterns of hunters/gatherers that moved from Africa to Eurasia, Australia, and the Americas, and describe the impact of migration on their lives and on the shaping of societies.
SOC.6.2.8.C.1.a	Describe the influence of the agricultural revolution (e.g., the impact of food surplus from farming) on population growth and the subsequent development of civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.1.c	Explain how archaeological discoveries are used to develop and enhance understanding of life prior to written records.
SOC.6.2.8.D.1.a	Demonstrate an understanding of pre-agricultural and post-agricultural periods in terms of relative length of time.
SOC.6.3.8.B.1	Evaluate alternative land use proposals and make recommendations to the appropriate governmental agency regarding the best course of action.
SOC.6.2.8.CS1	Hunter/gatherers adapted to their physical environments using resources, the natural world, and technological advancements. The agricultural revolution led to an increase in population, specialization of labor, new forms of social organization, and the beginning of societies. Archaeology provides historical and scientific explanations for how ancient people lived.
SOC.6.2.8.A.1.a	Compare and contrast the social organization, natural resources, and land use of early hunters/gatherers and those who lived in early agrarian societies.
SOC.6.2.8.D.1.b	Describe how the development of both written and unwritten languages impacted human understanding, development of culture, and social structure.
SOC.6.3.8	All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

## **Instructional Activities**

1. Interacting with maps and identifying human interaction with environment.
2. Individual creation language activity.
3. Visual presentation of human accomplishments for paleolithic/Mesolithic/neolithic era.
4. Map progression of technological advancements (agriculture/domestication)

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

1. Compare and contrast essay- accomplishments of the three major prehistoric time frames.
2. Science- analyzing artifacts

## **Assessment**

### **Formative Assessment:**

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled "Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate." After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the "Summarize" quadrant, the teacher might say, "List the key concepts just presented."

**Inside-Outside Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

**Reader's Theater:**

**Exit Card:** Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.

**Portfolio Check:** Check the progress of a student's portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student's achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.

**Quiz:** Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.

**Journal Entry:** Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.

**Choral Response:** In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

**Misconception Check:** Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why.

The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.

**Student Conference:** One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.

**3-Minute Pause:** The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.

**Observation:** Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.

**Self-Assessment:** A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what

it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

**Index Card/Summaries/Questions:** Periodically, distribute index cards and ask students to write on both sides, with these instructions: (Side 1) Based on our study of (unit topic), list a big idea that you understand and word it as a summary statement. (Side 2) Identify something about (unit topic) that you do not yet fully understand and word it as a statement or question.

**Hand Signals:** Ask students to display a designated hand signal to indicate their understanding of a specific concept, principal, or process: - I understand \_\_\_\_\_ and can explain it (e.g., thumbs up). - I do not yet understand \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., thumbs down). - I'm not completely sure about \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., wave hand).

**One Minute Essay:** A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

**Analogy Prompt:** Present students with an analogy prompt: (A designated concept, principle, or process) is like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Web or Concept Map:** Any of several forms of graphical organizers which allow learners to perceive relationships between concepts through diagramming key words representing those concepts.

<http://www.graphic.org/concept.html>

## **Benchmark:**

ELA Research based benchmark

## **Summative:**

End-of-marking period assessment/ Performance task

Unit Test

Culminating Learning Project

End-of-year Assessment

## **Alternative:**

Portfolio

Living History Museum

Conferences

Concept Map

Learning Centers

Demonstration station

## **Texts and Resources**

---

World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill

World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt

<http://earlyhumans.mrdonn.org/index.html>

<http://www.documentarytube.com/videos/otzi-the-iceman-murder>

## **Unit #2 Emergence of Pastoral People -Mesopotamia**

**Content Area: Social Studies**

**Course(s): Social Studies**

**Time Period: October-November**

**Length: 30 days**

**Status: Published**

---

### **Enduring Understanding**

**The first early river valley civilization, Mesopotamia, developed due to favorable geographic conditions. They created centralized systems of government and advanced societies.**

### **Essential Questions**

1. How did the geographical features of the various ancient Mesopotamian civilizations affect the development of settlements, social structures and trade networks?
  2. How did technological advancements and religion lead to development of government, economic sustainability and class systems?
  3. What were the lasting legacies of subsequent cultures along the Fertile Crescent?
- 

### **NJ Student Learning Standards**

SOC.6.2.8.A.2.b	Determine the role of slavery in the economic and social structures of early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.a	Analyze the impact of religion on daily life, government, and culture in various early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.C.2.a	Explain how technological advancements led to greater economic specialization, improved weaponry, trade, and the development of a class system in early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.b	Explain how the development of written language transformed all aspects of life in early river valley civilizations. SOC.6.2.8.D.2.d Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of the early river valley civilizations over time.
SOC.6.2.8.A.2.a	Explain how/why different early river valley civilizations developed similar forms of government and legal structures.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.c	Analyze the factors that led to the rise and fall of various early river valley civilizations and determine whether there was a common pattern of growth and decline.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.b	Compare and contrast physical and political maps of early river valley civilizations and their Modern counterparts (i.e., Mesopotamia and Iraq; Ancient Egypt and Modern Egypt; Indus River Valley and Modern Pakistan/India; Ancient China and Modern China), and determine the geopolitical impact of these civilizations, then and now.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.a	Determine the extent to which geography influenced settlement, the development of trade networks, technological innovations, and the sustainability of early river valley civilizations.

### **Instructional Activities**

1. Interactive map activity for the geographical features of the ancient Mesopotamian civilization.
2. Labeled timeline identifying the development of Sumerian civilization in Mesopotamia reflecting government and society.
3. Visual presentation of Sumerian advancements.
4. Travel guide identifying subsequent cultures along the Fertile Crescent and their advancements.

## Interdisciplinary Connection

Examine the writing and art of Mesopotamia. Coordinate with Art classes to create cuneiform tablets.

## Assessment

### Formative Assessment:

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled "Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate." After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the "Summarize" quadrant, the teacher might say, "List the key concepts just presented."

**Inside-Outside Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

**Reader's Theater:**

**Exit Card:** Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.

**Portfolio Check:** Check the progress of a student's portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student's achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.

**Quiz:** Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.

**Journal Entry:** Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.

**Choral Response:** In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

**Misconception Check:** Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why.

The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.

**Student Conference:** One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.

**3-Minute Pause:** The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.

**Observation:** Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.

**Self-Assessment:** A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

**Index Card/Summaries/Questions:** Periodically, distribute index cards and ask students to write on both sides, with these instructions: (Side 1) Based on our study of (unit topic), list a big idea that you understand and word it as a summary statement. (Side 2) Identify something about (unit topic) that you do not yet fully understand and word it as a statement or question.

**Hand Signals:** Ask students to display a designated hand signal to indicate their understanding of a specific concept, principal, or process: - I understand \_\_\_\_\_ and can explain it (e.g., thumbs up).

- I do not yet understand \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., thumbs down). - I'm not completely sure about \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., wave hand).

**One Minute Essay:** A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

**Analogy Prompt:** Present students with an analogy prompt: (A designated concept, principle, or process) is like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Web or Concept Map:** Any of several forms of graphical organizers which allow learners to perceive relationships between concepts through diagramming key words representing those concepts.

<http://www.graphic.org/concept.html>

### **Benchmark:**

ELA Research based benchmark

### **Summative:**

End-of-marking period assessment/ Performance task

Culminating Learning Project

End-of-year Assessment

### **Alternative:**

Portfolio

Living History Museum

Conferences

Concept Map

Learning Centers

Demonstration station

### **Texts and Resources**

---

World Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill

World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt

<http://mesopotamia.mrdonn.org/index.html>

[http://www.ancient.eu/Fertile\\_Crescent/](http://www.ancient.eu/Fertile_Crescent/)

<https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/search?q=mepotamia>

## Unit #3, Social Studies, Emergence of Pastoral People-- Egypt

Content Area: Social Studies

Course(s): Social Studies

Time Period: December Length: 8 weeks

Status: Published

### Enduring Understanding

The river valley civilization of Egypt developed along the Nile River. They created a centralized system of government and a technologically advanced society with an enduring legacy

### New Jersey Student Learning Standards

---

SOC.6.2.8.A.2.b	Determine the role of slavery in the economic and social structures of early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.a	Analyze the impact of religion on daily life, government, and culture in various early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.C.2.a	Explain how technological advancements led to greater economic specialization, improved weaponry, trade, and the development of a class system in early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.b	Explain how the development of written language transformed all aspects of life in early river Valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.d	Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of the early river valley civilizations over time.
SOC.6.2.8.A.2.a	Explain how/why different early river valley civilizations developed similar forms of government and legal structures.
SOC.6.2.8.3	The Classical Civilizations of the Mediterranean World, India, and China (1000 BCE-600 CE)
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.c	Analyze the factors that led to the rise and fall of various early river valley civilizations and determine whether there was a common pattern of growth and decline.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.b	Compare and contrast physical and political maps of early river valley civilizations and their modern counterparts (i.e., Mesopotamia and Iraq; Ancient Egypt and Modern Egypt; Indus River Valley and Modern Pakistan/India; Ancient China and Modern China), and determine the geopolitical impact of these civilizations, then and now.
SOC.6.3.8	All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.a	Determine the extent to which geography influenced settlement, the development of trade Networks, technological innovations, and the sustainability of early river valley civilizations.

### Essential Questions

1. How did the geographical features of ancient Egypt and Kush allow for the development of their respective civilizations and their downfall?
2. How did the development of religion, government, and economic affect society?
3. What are the lasting contributions made by the Egyptians?

### Instructional Activities

1. Interactive map activity for the geographical features of the ancient Egypt and Kush illustrating development of their respective civilizations.
2. Development of social hierarchy chart explaining the various roles in society.
3. Research of the development of polytheism/Egyptian deities and its affected society
4. Visual presentation of lasting contributions made by the Egyptians in technology and the arts.
5. Interactive map activity identifying trade routes in ancient Egypt and Kush.

6. Analyze current events presented in multimedia formats.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

Language Arts activity. Coordinate to research, create, and present stories on Egyptian mythology.

## **Assessment**

### **Formative Assessment:**

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled "Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate." After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the "Summarize" quadrant, the teacher might say, "List the key concepts just presented."

**Inside-Outside Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

**Reader's Theater:**

**Exit Card:** Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.

**Portfolio Check:** Check the progress of a student's portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student's achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.

**Quiz:** Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.

**Journal Entry:** Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.

**Choral Response:** In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

**Misconception Check:** Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why. The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.

**Student Conference:** One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.

**3-Minute Pause:** The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.

**Observation:** Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.

**Self-Assessment:** A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

**Index Card/Summaries/Questions:** Periodically, distribute index cards and ask students to write on both sides, with these instructions: (Side 1) Based on our study of (unit topic), list a big idea that you

understand and word it as a summary statement. (Side 2) Identify something about (unit topic) that you do not yet fully understand and word it as a statement or question.

**Hand Signals:** Ask students to display a designated hand signal to indicate their understanding of a specific concept, principal, or process: - I understand \_\_\_\_\_ and can explain it (e.g., thumbs up). - I do not yet understand \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., thumbs down). - I'm not completely sure about \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., wave hand).

**One Minute Essay:** A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

**Analogy Prompt:** Present students with an analogy prompt: (A designated concept, principle, or process) is like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Web or Concept Map:** Any of several forms of graphical organizers which allow learners to perceive relationships between concepts through diagramming key words representing those concepts.

<http://www.graphic.org/concept.html>

### **Benchmark:**

ELA Research based benchmark

### **Summative:**

End-of-marking period assessment/ Performance task

Unit Test

Culminating Learning Project

End-of-year Assessment

### **Alternative:**

Portfolio

Living History Museum

Conferences

Concept Map

Learning Centers

Demonstration station

### **Texts and Resources**

World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill

World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt

<http://egypt.mrdonn.org/index.html>

<https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/search?q=what%20the%20ancients%20knew%20egypt>

<http://www.mapsofworld.com/world-ancient-history/egypt.html>

# Unit #4, Social Studies, Emergence of Pastoral People-- India

Content Area: **Social Studies**

Course(s): **Social Studies**

Time Period: **March**

Length: **30 days**

Status: **Published**

## Enduring Understanding

The river valley civilization that developed along the Indus River created a mysterious civilization that is still being discovered and explored today and was home of two of the major religions.

## Essential Questions

1. How did the geographical features which allow for the development of ancient India civilization?
2. How did the evolution of religion impact social structure?
3. What were the long-lasting contributions of ancient India?

## NJ Student Learning Standards

---

SOC.6.2.8.CS2	Early river valley civilizations (e.g., Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus River [modern Pakistan and Northwestern India], and, later, Yellow River Valley in China) developed due to favorable geographic conditions. They created centralized systems of government and advanced societies.
SOC.6.2.8.A.2.b	Determine the role of slavery in the economic and social structures of early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.a	Analyze the impact of religion on daily life, government, and culture in various early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.C.2.a	Explain how technological advancements led to greater economic specialization, improved weaponry, trade, and the development of a class system in early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.b	Explain how the development of written language transformed all aspects of life in early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.d	Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of the early river valley civilizations over time.
SOC.6.2.8.D.1.b	Describe how the development of both written and unwritten languages impacted human understanding, development of culture, and social structure.
SOC.6.2.8.A.2.a	Explain how/why different early river valley civilizations developed similar forms of government and legal structures.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.c	Analyze the factors that led to the rise and fall of various early river valley civilizations and determine whether there was a common pattern of growth and decline.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.b	Compare and contrast physical and political maps of early river valley civilizations and their modern counterparts (i.e., Mesopotamia and Iraq; Ancient Egypt and Modern Egypt; Indus River Valley and Modern Pakistan/India; Ancient China and Modern China), and determine the geopolitical impact of these civilizations, then and now.
SOC.6.3.8	All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.a	Determine the extent to which geography influenced settlement, the development of trade networks, technological innovations, and the sustainability of early river valley civilizations.

## Instructional Activities

1. Interactive map activity for the geographical features of the ancient India illustrating development of this civilization.
2. Explain how the Aryan culture developed along the Indus River and describe its society.
3. Flow chart to show the origins of Buddhism and its appeal to people.
4. Visual presentation of lasting contributions made by India in technology and the arts.
5. Analyze current events presented in multimedia formats.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

Language Arts connection: Write a compare/contrast essay for the religions of Hinduism and Buddhism

Health and Physical Education: Study and practice meditation and yoga.

## Assessment:

### Formative Assessment:

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled "Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate." After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the "Summarize" quadrant, the teacher might say, "List the key concepts just presented."

**Inside-Outside Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

**Reader's Theater:**

**Exit Card:** Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.

**Portfolio Check:** Check the progress of a student's portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student's achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.

**Quiz:** Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.

**Journal Entry:** Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.

**Choral Response:** In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

**Misconception Check:** Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why.

The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.

**Student Conference:** One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.

**3-Minute Pause:** The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.

**Observation:** Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.

**Self-Assessment:** A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

**Index Card/Summaries/Questions:** Periodically, distribute index cards and ask students to write on both sides, with these instructions: (Side 1) Based on our study of (unit topic), list a big idea that you understand and word it as a summary statement. (Side 2) Identify something about (unit topic) that you do not yet fully understand and word it as a statement or question.

**Hand Signals:** Ask students to display a designated hand signal to indicate their understanding of a specific concept, principal, or process: - I understand \_\_\_\_\_ and can explain it (e.g., thumbs up). - I do not yet understand \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., thumbs down). - I'm not completely sure about \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., wave hand).

**One Minute Essay:** A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

**Analogy Prompt:** Present students with an analogy prompt: (A designated concept, principle, or process) is like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Web or Concept Map:** Any of several forms of graphical organizers which allow learners to perceive relationships between concepts through diagramming key words representing those concepts.

<http://www.graphic.org/concept.html>

### **Benchmark:**

ELA Research based benchmark

### **Summative:**

End-of-marking period assessment/ Performance task

Unit Test

Culminating Learning Project

End-of-year Assessment

### **Alternative:**

Portfolio

Living History Museum

Conferences

Concept Map

Learning Centers

Demonstration station

### **Texts and Resources**

World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill

World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt

<http://www.ancientindia.co.uk>

<http://india.mrdonn.org/index.html>

## **Unit #5 Emergence of Pastoral People-- China**

Content Area: **Social Studies**

Course(s): **Social Studies**  
Time Period: **April**  
Length: **30 days**  
Status: **Published**

## **Enduring Understanding**

China is the oldest, continuous civilization in the world. Its cultural, political, philosophical, economic, and religious contributions impacted not only the ancient world, but today as well.

## **Essential Questions**

1. How did geography influence the development Chinese civilization and its development of political and social order?
2. What factors helped unified China throughout history?

## **NJ Student Learning Standards**

---

SOC.6.2.8.A.2.b	Determine the role of slavery in the economic and social structures of early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.a	Analyze the impact of religion on daily life, government, and culture in various early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.C.2.a	Explain how technological advancements led to greater economic specialization, improved weaponry, trade, and the development of a class system in early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.b	Explain how the development of written language transformed all aspects of life in early river valley civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.2.d	Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of the early river valley civilizations over time.
SOC.6.2.8.A.2.a	Explain how/why different early river valley civilizations developed similar forms of government and legal Structures.
SSOC.6.2.8.D.2.c	Analyze the factors that led to the rise and fall of various early river valley civilizations and determine whether there was a common pattern of growth and decline.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.b	Compare and contrast physical and political maps of early river valley civilizations and their modern counterparts (i.e., Mesopotamia and Iraq; Ancient Egypt and Modern Egypt; Indus River Valley and Modern Pakistan/India; Ancient China and Modern China), and determine the geopolitical impact of these civilizations, then and now. SOC.6.3.8 All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.
SOC.6.2.8.B.2.a	Determine the extent to which geography influenced settlement, the development of trade networks, technological innovations, and the sustainability of early river valley civilizations.

## **Instructional Activities**

1. Interactive map to present how geography influenced how the different Chinese civilizations developed and its development of social order.
2. Analyze the development of the political, social and religious developments for each different Chinese dynasty.
3. Inspect how the Qin Dynasty unified China through a strong government and system of standardization.
4. Explain how the government, economy, and geography led to the exchange of ideas and products from China to Japan, India, Rome and others.

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

Mathematics: Chart the growth of China's population throughout history as it compares to the world's population.

Language Arts/Art: The Chinese developed calligraphy;

Research, design and create a personal statement based on Confucius.

## **Assessment:**

### **Formative:**

Journal

Checklists

Pair share activity

Exit ticket/cards

Fist Five

List 10 Things

Reflection Journals

### **Benchmark:**

ELA Research Based Benchmark

### **Summative:**

End-of-marking period assessment/ Performance task

Unit Test

Culminating Learning Project

End-of-year Assessment

### **Alternative:**

Portfolio

Role play

Conferences

Concept Map

Demonstration Station

Learning centers

## **Texts and Resources**

World Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill

World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt

<https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/search?q=what%20the%20ancients%20knew%20china>

<http://china.mrdonn.org/index.html>

<http://www.ancientchina.co.uk/menu.html>

[http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/china\\_for\\_kids.htm](http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/china_for_kids.htm)

## **Unit #6 Classical Civilizations- Greece**

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies**  
Time Period: **May -June**  
Length: **40 days**  
Status: **Published**

## **Enduring Understanding**

Greece, considered a classical civilization, developed and expanded into an empire of unprecedented size and diversity. By creating a centralized government and promoting commerce, a common culture, and social values, it became a major force in the Mediterranean. Cultural exchange and diffusion dramatically increased, and enduring world religions emerged, during the era of this classical civilization. Though it declined as a result of internal weaknesses and external invasions, Greece left a lasting legacy.

## **Essential Questions**

1. How did Greece's geography and access to natural resources influence the development of economics, political structure and social hierarchy?
2. What were the key factors which lead to the development of Athenian democracy and its influence on the US Constitution?
3. What were the lasting impact of Hellenism?

## **NJ Student Learning Standards**

---

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.a	Compare and contrast the methods (i.e., autocratic rule, philosophies, and bureaucratic structures) used by the rulers of Rome, China, and India to control and unify their expanding empires.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.d	Compare and contrast the tenets of various world religions that developed in or around this time period (i.e., Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, and Taoism), their patterns of expansion, and their responses to the current challenges of globalization.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.a	Compare and contrast social hierarchies in classical civilizations as they relate to power, wealth, and equality.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.b	Determine common factors that contributed to the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, Gupta India, and HanChina.
SOC.6.2.8.B.3.a	Determine how geography and the availability of natural resources influenced the development of the political, economic, and cultural systems of each of the classical civilizations and provided motivation for expansion. SOC.6.2.8.C.3.a Analyze the impact of expanding land and sea trade routes as well as a uniform system of exchange in the Mediterranean World and Asia.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.e	Determine the extent to which religion, economic issues, and conflict shaped the values and decisions of the classical civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.A.3.e	Compare and contrast the American legal system with the legal systems of classical civilizations, and determine the extent to which these early systems influenced our current legal system.
SOC.6.2.8.C.3.b	Explain how classical civilizations used technology and innovation to enhance agricultural/manufacturing output and commerce, to expand military capabilities, to improve life in urban areas, and to allow for greater division of labor.
SOC.6.2.8.A.3.c	Determine the foundational concepts and principles of Athenian democracy and the Roman Republic that later influenced the development of the United States Constitution.
SOC.6.2.8.A.3.b	Compare and contrast the rights and responsibilities of free men, women, slaves, and foreigners in the political, economic, and social structures of classical civilizations.
SOC.6.2.8.D.3.c	Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of Greece, Rome,

SOC.6.2.8.A.3.d	India, and China over time. Compare the status (i.e., political, economic, and social) of groups in the Ancient World to those of people today and evaluate how individuals perceived the principles of liberty and equality then and now.
SOC.6.2.8.B.3.b	Explain how geography and the availability of natural resources led to both the development of Greek city-states and to their decline.
SOC.6.3.8	All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.

## Instructional Activities

1. Map activities illustrating the unique topography of Greece and how it influenced the rise of city-states.
2. Map activities diagramming the growth of Greek city-states, trade routes, and how it impacted the Persians and led to conflict.
3. Writing activities comparing and contrasting the major city-states of Athens and Sparta.
4. Project to research, create, and present the Seven Wonders of the World.
5. Create a flowchart describing the development of democracy by viewing earlier forms of governments (oligarchy/tyranny).
5. Create a "T" chart showing how Athenian democracy influenced the formation of the US Constitution.
6. Interactive map activity describing the expansion of Alexander the Great and the introduction of Greek culture into his empire.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

Language Arts: Compare / contrast essay for Athens and Sparta

Art: Create Greek style decorative pottery / designs

Health and Physical Education: The Olympics; develop Olympic-style games

## Assessment:

### Formative Assessment:

**A-B-C Summaries:** Each student in the class is assigned a different letter of the alphabet and they must select a word starting with that letter that is related to the topic being studied.

**Debriefing:** A form of reflection immediately following an activity.

**Idea Spinner:** The teacher creates a spinner marked into 4 quadrants and labeled "Predict, Explain, Summarize, Evaluate." After new material is presented, the teacher spins the spinner and if the spinner lands in the "Summarize" quadrant, the teacher might say, "List the key concepts just presented."

**Inside-Outside Circle:** Inside and outside circles of students face each other. Within each pair of facing students, students quiz each other with questions they have written. Outside circle moves to create new

**Reader's Theater:**

**Exit Card:** Exit cards are written student responses to questions posed at the end of a class or learning activity or at the end of a day.

**Portfolio Check:** Check the progress of a student's portfolio. A portfolio is a purposeful collection of significant work, carefully selected, dated and presented to tell the story of a student's achievement or growth in well-defined areas of performance, such as reading, writing, math, etc. A portfolio usually

includes personal reflections where the student explains why each piece was chosen and what it shows about his/her growing skills and abilities.

**Quiz:** Quizzes assess students for factual information, concepts and discrete skill. There is usually a single best answer.

**Journal Entry:** Students record in a journal their understanding of the topic, concept or lesson taught. The teacher reviews the entry to see if the student has gained an understanding of the topic, lesson or concept that was taught.

**Choral Response:** In response to a cue, all students respond verbally at the same time. The response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something the teacher has said.

**Misconception Check:** Present students with common or predictable misconceptions about a designated concept, principle, or process. Ask them whether they agree or disagree and explain why.

The misconception check can also be presented in the form of a multiple-choice or true-false quiz.

**Student Conference:** One on one conversation with students to check their level of understanding.

**3-Minute Pause:** The Three-Minute Pause provides a chance for students to stop, reflect on the concepts and ideas that have just been introduced, make connections to prior knowledge or experience, and seek clarification.

**Observation:** Walk around the classroom and observe students as they work to check for learning.

**Self-Assessment:** A process in which students collect information about their own learning, analyze what it reveals about their progress toward the intended learning goals and plan the next steps in their learning.

**Index Card/Summaries/Questions:** Periodically, distribute index cards and ask students to write on both sides, with these instructions: (Side 1) Based on our study of (unit topic), list a big idea that you understand and word it as a summary statement. (Side 2) Identify something about (unit topic) that you do not yet fully understand and word it as a statement or question.

**Hand Signals:** Ask students to display a designated hand signal to indicate their understanding of a specific concept, principle, or process: - I understand \_\_\_\_\_ and can explain it (e.g., thumbs up). - I do not yet understand \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., thumbs down). - I'm not completely sure about \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., wave hand).

**One Minute Essay:** A one-minute essay question (or one-minute question) is a focused question with a specific goal that can, in fact, be answered within a minute or two.

**Analogy Prompt:** Present students with an analogy prompt: (A designated concept, principle, or process) is like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Web or Concept Map:** Any of several forms of graphical organizers which allow learners to perceive relationships between concepts through diagramming key words representing those concepts.

<http://www.graphic.org/concept.html>

## **Benchmark:**

ELA Research based benchmark

## **Summative:**

End-of-marking period assessment/ Performance task

Unit Test

Culminating Learning Project

End-of-year Assessment

**Alternative:**

Portfolio

Living History Museum

Conferences

Concept Map

Learning Centers

Demonstration station

**Texts and Resources**

---

World: Adventures in Time and Place, McGraw Hill

World History: Ancient Civilizations, Holt

<http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk>

<http://greece.mrdonn.org/index.html>[http://www.the-map-as-history.com/maps/9-antiquity\\_ancient\\_greece.php](http://www.the-map-as-history.com/maps/9-antiquity_ancient_greece.php)

[https://www.pbs.org/empires/thegreeks/educational/index\\_html.html](https://www.pbs.org/empires/thegreeks/educational/index_html.html)

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/history/seven-wonders/#Pyramids-at-Giza.png>

DVD- Telestar- The Seven Wonders of the World