

River Valley Civilizations

Standards:

- SSWH1a: Describe the development of Mesopotamian societies; include the religious, cultural, economic, and political facets of society, with attention to Hammurabi’s law code.
- SSWH1b: Describe the relationship of religion and political authority in Ancient Egypt.
- SSWH1e: Explain the development and importance of writing; include cuneiform, hieroglyphics, and the Phoenician alphabet.
- SSWH2a: Describe the development of Indian civilization; include the rise and fall of the Mauryan Empire, the “Golden Age” under Gupta, and the emperor Ashoka.

1. You will be assigned one of the following river valley civilizations:
 - a. Nile
 - b. Tigris/Euphrates
 - c. Indus.
2. You and your group will draw a map of your assigned river valley including labeling all parts. On the outside edges of your map, you will list specific characteristics of the civilization including:
 - a. Religion
 - b. Culture
 - c. Economics (money or trade)
 - d. Political (leadership)
 - e. Language (spoken/written)
 - f. Environment (physical features).
3. After you complete your poster, you will get together with the other groups to find the similarities between your assigned civilization and theirs. You will then explain why you think this characteristic existed in each of these ancient civilizations. Why did all three need/have this characteristic?

You will be graded on the following rubric:

Completed map with labels _____/20

6 characteristics of your civilization _____/60

Similarities writing activity _____/20

Total: _____/100

Teacher comments: _____
