

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

### **Ancient River Valley Civilizations WebQuest**

**Objective:** SWBAT complete the Ancient River Valley Civilizations WebQuest as an introduction to understanding the similarities and differences between the first civilizations.

**Essential Question:** What are the defining characteristics of the ancient river valley civilizations and how are they similar / different?

**Directions:** Follow the WebQuest below to discover more about the Ancient River Valley Civilizations. Write your answers on a sheet of notebook paper. You do not need to copy the questions. Please raise your hand if you have any questions.

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**Mesopotamia:** <http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk> (you may need to click on the river animation to continue)

- Click on “Geography” on the left (then click on “Geography” again)

1. What does *Mesopotamia* mean in Greek?

2. Which two rivers are included in the Mesopotamia river valley?

3. Why is the land so fertile? (two reasons)

- Click on “Explore” in the bottom right hand corner. Look at the map.

4. Name three ancient cities that are located on these rivers and tributaries.

5. Switch the map to “Modern Political” (white drop-down menu is up top). Through which present-day countries do these two rivers now flow?

- Click on the “Mesopotamia” link on the left to return to the homepage. Then, click on “Writing” on the left side (then click on “Writing” again)

6. How long ago did people living in Mesopotamia develop a form of writing?

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**Ancient Egypt:** <http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk> (you may need to click on the flower animation to continue)

- Click on “Geography” on the left (then click on “Geography” again)

1. What river did Ancient Egypt form beside?

- Go back to the home page. Click on “Mummification” on the left (then click on “Mummification” again)

2. What natural substance/process was used to dehydrate buried bodies?

3. What process did the Egyptians later develop? Click on this word to see the definition and write it below.

- Click on “Explore” in the bottom right hand corner. Click on the mummy to the right, and then click on the small jar that has ears.

4. What are these jars called?

5. What are these types of jars supposed to hold?

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**Ancient India:** <http://www.ancientindia.co.uk/>

- Click on “Geography” on the left (then click on “Geography” again)

1. What was the main river that Ancient India formed around?

- Go back to the Home page. Click on “Indus Valley” on the left (then click on “Indus Valley” again)

2. What was used to make the cities of the Civilization?

3. In the Indus Valley, what technology was the most sophisticated in the ancient world?

- Close that tab and go back to the Ancient India page. Click on the “Ancient India” icon on the left, and then “Early Hinduism”.

4. How long has Hinduism existed in India?

- Click on “Explore” in the bottom right hand corner. Click on the picture of Shiva and read the description.

5. What does Shiva do when he sees chaos and ungodliness?

6. How might this be an example of religion and government overlapping?

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**Ancient China:** <http://www.ancientchina.co.uk>

- Click on “Geography” on the left (then click on “Geography” again)

1. What are the names of the two most important rivers that Ancient China formed around?

- Go back to the Home page. Click on “Crafts and Artisans” (then click Crafts and Artisans again)

2. What were the most prized materials in Ancient China?

3. What did the ancient Chinese keep secret for hundreds of years?

4. Why do you think this was advantageous (why did this give China an advantage?)

- Click on the “Ancient China” icon on the left to go back to the main page, and then click on “Writing”.

5. The Chinese use *logograms*. How are these characters different from English letters?

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**You're done! Congratulations!**