

# Unit 2 The Early People

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Social Studies 5**  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **MP2**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

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During this unit of study, students will learn about the Paleolithic and Neolithic Eras and the technologies that helped to advance these civilizations. Students will learn that the Paleolithic Era or Old Stone Age was marked by hunter-gatherers and their nomadic lifestyle. They will understand that the hunter-gatherers lived in small groups and had temporary shelters. The Neolithic Era (The New Stone Age) began when humans invented agriculture. People during this era learned how to farm and domesticate animals. This allowed them to create permanent settlements. One settlement that still exists today is the village of Çatalhöyük.

## Standards

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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.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.C.1.b	Determine the impact of technological advancements on hunter/gatherer and agrarian societies.
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.6.2.8.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.D.1.c	Explain how archaeological discoveries are used to develop and enhance understanding of life prior to written records.

## Student Learning Objectives

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Students will learn:

- the features of the Paleolithic Era and Neolithic Era.
- the pros and cons of farming.

- to compare and contrast how nomadic and agrarian societies used land and natural resources.
- to relate the agricultural revolution (including the impact of food surplus from farming) to population growth and the subsequent development of civilizations.
- to describe the 8 features of civilization.
- to understand the significance and impact of cave art.

## Essential Questions

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- What was life like during the Early Ages?
- How did technology help advance the Paleolithic and Neolithic Eras?

## Enduring Understandings

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Students will understand that:

- 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 beginnings of societies.
- archeology provides historical and scientific explanations for how ancient people lived.

## Application

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to:

- describe the characteristics of the Old Stone Age (Paleolithic/Neolithic Eras)
- describe that agriculture caused food surpluses that in turn enabled people to specialize in crafts and trade
- identify the Stone Age technology
- explain that the people in the Stone Age used their surrounding environment (Blombos Cave, Border Cave)
- explain the importance of Cave art
- discuss the physical features of Çatalhöyük.

## Skills

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Students will be skilled at:

- identifying the period called the Old Stone Age and placing it in time.
- describing culture during the Old Stone Age.
- analyzing how the use of tools developed as life changed among early humans.
- recognizing the main idea and supporting details.
- defining and explaining technology as it relates to tools and the use of tools.
- describing how fire changed the lives of early humans.
- explaining how early people discovered and began to use metals.

- analyzing information by comparing and contrasting.
- describing the changes that occurred at the end of the Ice Age.
- explaining the factors that led to permanent human settlements.
- summarizing the ways that Çatalhöyük exemplified the changes brought by agriculture.
- constructing timelines of the events occurring during major eras.
- explaining how major events are related to one another in time.