

# GR 6 Unit 2 The Rise of Civilization

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Sept. - Oct.**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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**Unit Title:** The Rise of Civilization

### Essential Questions:

*Ch. 5 How did geographic challenges lead to the rise of city-states in Mesopotamia?*

*Ch. 6 Why do historians classify ancient Sumer as a civilization?*

*Ch. 7 What were the most important achievements of the Mesopotamian empires?*

*Ch. 8 What can we know about ancient Persia?*

*Ch. 9 In what ways did ancient Persians influence the world around them?*

*Ch. 10 What do we know about the ancient civilizations in the Americas?*

## Standards

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**Era 1. The Beginnings of Human Society – 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.**

- 6.2.8.HistoryCC.1.c: Describe how the development of both written and unwritten languages impacted human understanding, development of culture, and social structure.
- 6.2.8.HistorySE.1.a: Explain how archaeological discoveries are used to develop and enhance understanding of life prior to written records.

**Era 2. Early Civilizations and the Emergence of Pastoral Peoples: Early River Valley Civilizations (4000–1000 BCE) – 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.**

- 6.2.8.CivicsPI.2.a: Explain how/why different early river valley civilizations developed similar forms of government and legal structures.
- 6.2.8.CivicsHR.2.a: Determine the role of slavery in the economic and social structures of early river valley civilizations.
- 6.2.8.GeoSV.2.a: Compare and contrast physical and political maps of early river valley civilizations and their modern counterparts and determine the geopolitical impact of these civilizations, then and now.

- 6.2.8.GeoHE.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.
- 6.2.8.GeoGE.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.
- 6.2.8.HistoryCC.2.a: Evaluate the importance and enduring legacy of the major achievements of the early river valley civilizations over time.
- 6.2.8.HistoryCC.2.b: Analyze the impact of religion on daily life, government, and culture in various early river valley civilizations.
- 6.2.8.HistoryCC.2.c: Explain how the development of written language transformed all aspects of life in early river valley civilizations.
- 6.2.8.HistoryCA.2.a: 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.

**Era 3. The Classical Civilizations of the Mediterranean World, India, and China (1000 BCE-600 CE) – Classical civilizations (i.e., Greece, Rome, India and China) developed and expanded into empires of unprecedented size and diversity by creating centralized governments and promoting commerce, a common culture, and social values. Cultural exchange and diffusion dramatically increased, and enduring world religions emerged, during the era of classical civilizations. Classical civilizations declined as a result of internal weaknesses and external invasions, but they left lasting legacies for future civilizations.**

- 6.2.8.CivicsDP.3.a: 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 (e.g., Babylonian Code of Hammurabi, Roman Justinian Code, Israelite Jewish Law).

## **Materials/Activities/Resources**

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### **Core materials:**

- History Alive! The Ancient World [https://subscriptions.teachtci.com/staff/sign\\_in](https://subscriptions.teachtci.com/staff/sign_in)
- History Alive! The Ancient World: [https://subscriptions.teachtci.com/shared/programs/478/reference\\_materials?selected\\_unit\\_id=606&tag=Primary+Source+Library](https://subscriptions.teachtci.com/shared/programs/478/reference_materials?selected_unit_id=606&tag=Primary+Source+Library)
- Student Notebook

### **Supplemental Resources:**

- Newsela Social Studies Compendium: <https://newsela.com/signin>
- Flocabulary: [www.Flocabulary.com](http://www.Flocabulary.com)
- Nearpod: <https://nearpod.com/library/>

- Discovery Education (videos) <https://app.discoveryeducation.com/learn/signin>
- BrainPop: <https://www.brainpop.com/>
- Google Earth <https://earth.google.com/web/>
- National Geographic Kids <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>
- Enhancing Learning section of Lesson Overview in TCI
- Mr. Nicky Videos <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDDr4eBfkQbQmeHxbsfDPDQ>

### **Web Site Resources:**

- <https://mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org/>

### [NJ Mandated Curriculum Crosswalk Teacher Resources](#)

## **Technology**

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- OnCourse Classroom
- Google Classroom
- Google Apps
- Chromebooks
- VR Goggles

## **Assessment**

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### **Formative Assessment**

- Teacher Observation
- Written Responses
- Discussion Questions
- Student Forms (Exit Tickets)

### **Summative Assessment**

- Lesson Tests/Quizzes
- Unit Tests
- RSTs
- Essays
- Student Presentations/Projects

## **Accommodations & Modifications**

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## **Special Education**

- In class support with special ed teacher/classroom aide
- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Leveled texts in NewsELA
- Mixed Ability Grouping
- Questions read aloud
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe/Digital notebook
- Study guides

## **504**

- Additional time during intervention time
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Leveled texts in NewsELA
- Mixed Ability Grouping
- Questions read aloud
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts
- Limit number of questions
- Scribe/Digital notebook
- Study guides

## **ELL**

- Translation device/dictionary
- In class/pull out support with ESL teacher
- Leveled texts in NewsELA
- Preferred seating
- Extended time for completing tasks
- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support
- Mnemonic devices
- Songs/videos to reinforce concepts

## **At-Risk of Failure**

- Additional time during intervention time

- Graphic organizers
- Vocabulary support

### **Gifted & Talented**

- Independent projects
- Leveled texts in NewsELA
- GEM program

## **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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Cross-curricular: Writing in History Standards.

- Climate Change: Newsela article: <https://newsela.com/read/cradle-of-civilization-turning-grave/id/2001025013/>

## **Social and Emotional Learning Connections**

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Learning Mindset: Self-Reflection, Noticing, Seeking Challenges, Purpose, Growth Mindset, Belonging

## **21st Century Life Literacies & Key Skills**

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Financial Health

Financial Landscape

Money Management

Career Awareness and Planning

Creativity and Innovation

Critical Thinking and Problem-solving

Digital Citizenship

Global and Cultural Awareness

Information and Media Literacy

Technology Literacy

Standards in Action: Climate Change

## **Career Ready Practices**

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- CRP1. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- CRP2. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- CRP4. Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason
- CRP5. Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- CRP6. Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- CRP11. Use technology to enhance productivity.