

Mesopotamia Early Pioneers Activity

Reading Comprehension

One of the skills you are working on this year is "active reading." Use your highlighted, underlined, and annotated classroom copy of the Mesopotamia Early Pioneers lesson to answer the following questions. If your classroom copy of the lesson already has the answers underlined or highlighted, you are off to a GREAT start.

Please use complete sentences to answer the following questions:

- 1) What is one of the reasons that we call ancient Mesopotamia "the Cradle of Civilization"?

- 2) Mesopotamia is called the land between two rivers. What are the names of those rivers?

- 3) Why did archaeologists nickname ancient Mesopotamia "the Fertile Crescent"?

- 4) What was name of the first Mesopotamian civilization?

- 5) How did Mesopotamian pottery serve as a form of wealth?

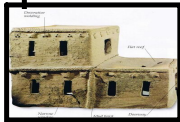
- 6) What are at least two things the early Mesopotamians invented?

Creating a 3-Step Process Chart

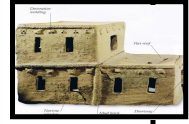
Objective: Understand the "cause & effect chain"

Below, is an example of a 3-Step process chart. Notice the flow of the chart and how each "effect" becomes the next "cause."

Example:



CAUSE		Effect
People develop agriculture	→	A steady supply of food is available
A steady supply of food is available	→	Development of permanent housing
Development of permanent housing	→	Beginning of government



Use your reading to develop a 3-Step "cause & effect" process chart. You may consider beginning with one of the following or choose one of your own:

1. domestication of animals
2. construction of irrigation ditches
3. development of religion
4. any of the Mesopotamians' many innovations/ inventions

Cause		Effect
	→	
	→	
	→	