

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"?

We call Mesopotamia the Cradle of Civilization because it is where the first civilization, Sumer, was established.

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

The names of the two rivers in Mesopotamia are the Tigris and the Euphrates.

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

Archaeologists nicknamed Mesopotamia the fertile crescent because water from the rivers allowed the early settlers to grow an abundance of crops.

4) What was name of the first Mesopotamian civilization?

The name of the first Mesopotamian civilization was Sumer.

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

Because Mesopotamian pottery was so beautiful it could be traded for other necessities like food and clothing, it was considered a form of wealth.

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

The early Mesopotamian invented all sorts of things, but a few of my favorites are writing, the sailboat and, of course, civilization.