



Student Activity

Mesopotamia **Time Compass**

Vocabulary:

civilization, nomad, phalanges, cuneiform, sexagesimal system, chariots, infantry, cavalry, Homo habilis, Homo erectus, ziggurats, astronomy, astrology, epic, eternal youth

Pre-Viewing Discussion:

Where is the Tigris River located? Where is the Euphrates River located?

What types of human activity are likely to develop in fertile lands located between two major rivers?

Do you know where civilization first began when nomadic tribes settled down and built towns and cities?

Why were nomads able to stop wandering around looking for new sources of food?

Post-Viewing Discussion:

Why was Mesopotamia an excellent location for early civilizations?

What human activities began to develop once people came together in cities?

How did the civilizations of the Sumerians, the Assyrians, and the Babylonians advance ways of dealing with one another in a civilized society? What were the greatest achievements of each of these societies?

What legends and religious practices expressed early ideas about the gods and their views of human beings?

Further Activities:

Discover some of the rules that were recorded in the Code of Hammurabi.

Compare and contrast the ideas of ancient astronomers and astrologists.

Find stories of how the wheel was invented. Imagine what civilization would be like if the wheel had not been invented.

Read accounts, histories, and biographies about King Nebuchadnezzar and his great love for his foreign wife.

Related New Dimension Media Titles:

Seven Wonders of the Ancient World (series)

Great Civilizations of the Ancient World (series)

Iran Today (Beyond Our Borders Series)

Turkey (Beyond Our Borders Series)