

Investigating Ancient Civilizations

Purpose:

We will familiarize ourselves with the features of several ancient civilizations to gain a broad outlook on human civilizations. In this way, we will be able to engage in higher level thinking on topics such as:

- How/why do civilizations rise and fall?
- What can we learn from diverse perspectives, beliefs and world views?
- What judgements, or lessons can we draw from past events?
- What is significant to us today?
- How do different world views compare with each other?
- How did environment affect various cultures?

Each group will research and make a presentation on an ancient civilization. Research the following topics. Divide topics among the group. Have each person make slides on their topics, and then assemble.

- Geography/Environment
- Time period - dates
- Beliefs/Religion
- Government
- Economy/Trade
- Inventions/Innovations
- Architecture
- How people lived according to their position in society.
- The Arts
- Rise and Fall of this Culture
- Other

When planning your slides, think of

- What image will be projected?
- What text will be projected? (Should be concise, not too long)
- What you will say while the slide is projected

Suggested Ancient Cultures:

Egypt

China

Greece

Rome

Maya }

Olmec } or other pre-Columbian culture of the Americas

Teotihuacan }

Inca

Indus River (Ancient India)