

Let's Settle Down

Characteristics of Civilization

Laura Halstied, Teresa Lansford
Published by *K20 Center*

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons CC BY-SA 4.0 License

Grade Level	9th – 12th Grade	**Time Frame**	90 minutes
Subject	Social Studies	**Duration**	2 periods
Course	World History		

Essential Question

What are the characteristics of a civilization? Why do civilizations develop in certain locations?

Summary

In this lesson, students analyze ancient river civilizations to understand how the environment impacts both human settlement and the characteristics of a civilization. Then, students connect the characteristics of civilization to the one they live in. This is a multimodality lesson, which means it includes face-to-face, online, and hybrid versions of the lesson. The attachments include a downloadable Common Cartridge file, which can be imported into a learning management system (LMS) such as Canvas. The cartridge includes interactive student activities and teacher's notes.

Snapshot

Engage

Students examine a map and choose where they would want to settle.

Explore

Students explore how rivers supported the development of early civilizations.

Explain

Students analyze an ancient river valley civilization.

Extend

Students examine elements of their own civilization.

Evaluate

Students reflect on what they learned about civilizations and respond to the lesson's essential questions.

Standards

ACT College and Career Readiness Standards - Reading (6-12)

IDT402: Identify a clear central idea or theme in somewhat challenging passages or their paragraphs
REL402: Identify clear comparative relationships in somewhat challenging passages

ACT College and Career Readiness Standards - Writing (6-12)

I&A 401: Understanding the task and writing with purpose. A score in this range indicates that the writer is able to: -Generate a clear thesis that establishes a perspective on a contemporary issue -Engage with other perspectives on the issue

Oklahoma Academic Standards SOCIAL STUDIES (Modern World History)

AWH.C.1.5: Describe how the development of agriculture (the cultivation of crops and the domestication of animals) related to settlement, population growth, and the emergence of civilization.
AWH.C.1.6: Identify the major characteristics of civilizations (e.g., geographic boundaries and political institutions, economies that produce food surpluses, the formation of cities and states, social classes and hierarchical organization, developed systems of religion, learning, art, and architecture, and systems of writing and record keeping).

Oklahoma Academic Standards SOCIAL STUDIES (Modern World History)

MWH.C.1.1: Explain how geographical and environmental factors impacted settlement and cultural development.

Attachments

- Common Cartridge—Let's Settle Down.zip
- Lesson Slides—Let's Settle Down.pptx
- PERSIA—Let's Settle Down.docx
- PERSIA—Let's Settle Down.pdf
- Pick a Place to Settle—Let's Settle Down.docx
- Pick a Place to Settle—Let's Settle Down.pdf
- River Valley Civilizations—Let's Settle Down.docx
- River Valley Civilizations—Let's Settle Down.pdf

Materials

- Common Cartridge (attached)
- Pick a Place to Settle handout (attached)
- River Valley Civilizations Map handout (attached)
- PERSIA handout (attached)
- Student devices with internet access

10 minutes

Engage

Share the attached **Pick a Place to Settle** handout with students in your learning management system (LMS) via an assignment. In the directions, tell students to choose a location on the map grid, such as A5, and explain why they chose that location.

15 minutes

Explore

Share the attached **River Valley Civilizations Map** handout in your LMS via an assignment. Have students respond to the following open-ended questions:

- What do the locations of the civilizations have in common?
- What natural resources supported these civilizations?

Share a link to the video *Mankind: The Story of All of Us: Birth of Farming* in your LMS. The video is three minutes long and explains how farming changed human settlement. Create an assignment that has students answer the following questions after viewing the video:

- How do the locations of the river valley civilizations support farming?
- How does the video suggest that farming leads to the creation of a civilization?

30 minutes

Explain

In your LMS, share the attached **PERSIA** handout and the PERSIA Graphic Organizer strategy with students.

Share the link to the River Valley Civilizations infographic, k20.ou.edu/rivercivs, in your LMS within an assignment. In the assignment directions, tell students to choose one of the four river valley civilizations. Tell students to complete the PERSIA handout with their chosen civilization then submit the handout in your LMS.

30 minutes

Extend

In a LMS, create an open-ended response assignment. Share another digital copy of the PERSIA handout. Tell students to create a PERSIA chart about the civilization they live in and submit the finished chart in the LMS.

10 minutes

Evaluate

Create a discussion post in a LMS. In the directions, tell students to respond to the lesson's essential questions: *What are the characteristics of a civilization? Why do civilizations develop in certain locations?*

Review the responses to check for student understanding of the lesson content.

Resources

- The History Channel. (2012, December 2). *Mankind: The story of all of us: Birth of farming | History* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhzQFIZuNFY
- K20 Center. (n.d.). *Ancient river valleys* [Infographic]. Infogram. https://infogram.com/1pxdpmv6enrx23sq1xmv9dgyy5unkr126wp?live
- K20 Center. (n.d.). I notice, I wonder. Strategies. https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/180
- K20 Center. (n.d.). PERSIA graphic organizer. Strategies. https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/113