

Ancient Civilizations - An Inventions and Innovations Inquiry

Curricular competencies:

- Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to - ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze ideas; and communicate findings.
- Assess the significance of people, places, events or developments at particular times and places

Students explore and identify specific examples of influences and contributions from ancient cultures.

The driving question: What are significant archeological findings that help us understand the development of ancient cultures?



The inquiry: Use a variety of sources to research an invention or area of innovation from an ancient culture that has had a lasting impact. Identify specific examples of influences and contributions (e.g. writing system, number system, philosophy, education, religion and spirituality, visual arts, drama, architecture, timekeeping) and assess their significance.

Select and create an appropriate form of presentation suitable for the purpose and audience (e.g., an animation, an iMovie, an oral presentation, a slideshow, a dramatic performance, a 3D model).

Explore and gather evidence from the following areas for a selected ancient civilization:

- history of the invention/innovation (the ancient culture; when, where)
- how it was made/how it began
- interesting or impressive facts
- ancient purposes or uses
- how this invention/innovation has had a lasting impact

Establish your own guiding questions for the areas of inquiry and respond to them. Create an effective, eye-catching form of presentation to communicate your findings.

Suggested criteria for success:

- At least five key areas of inquiry explored, with guiding questions and supporting information for each are
- A bibliography, documenting the sources that guided your inquiry (websites, books publisher/date, page number),
- A 3D model, related images or something interactive to engage others in your research