

Subject: History  
 Year group: 3  
 Term: Summer Term 2023  
 Unit name: The Ancient Civilisations - What were the similarities and differences between the earliest civilisations?

Retrieval Vocabulary	New Vocabulary
AD, age, agriculture, artefact, BC, BCE, CE, common, goods, historian, irrigation, language, legend, livestock, monument, nobility, past, period, ruler, stability, technology, tomb, transport, weapon, worship	chariot, dynasty, emperor, epic, fertile, influence, oral tradition, organisation, possession, precious, production, tax, territory

National Curriculum:  
 The achievements of the earliest civilizations – an overview of where and when the first civilizations appeared and a depth study of one of the following: Ancient Sumer; The Indus Valley; Ancient Egypt; The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China

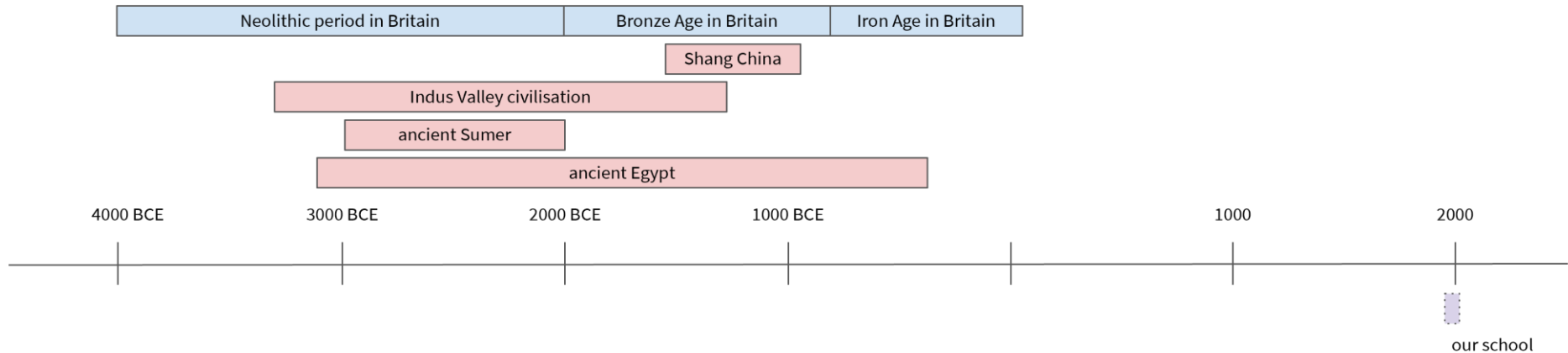


Spiritual Development  
 Through the study of history children have the opportunity to learn about the past and go on to shape the future. The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out. Proverbs 18:15. As without knowledge 'his words lack insight.' Job 34:35.

Key Concepts:  
**community & culture** - (architecture, art, civilisation, communication, economy, inspiration, myth, nation, religion, settlement, story, trade)  
**conflict & disaster** - (liberation, peace, war)  
**exploration & invention** - (discovery, progress, tools)  
**hierarchy & power** - (country, empire, equality, government, monarchy, peasantry, privilege, slavery)  
**evidence & interpretation** (source)

Key Individuals:  
 Samuel Kramer – Historian (relates to Ancient Sumer)

Specific knowledge:  
 To answer the question: Why is ancient Sumer considered to be an early civilisation?  
 To answer the question: What can we learn about Sumer from the Standard of Ur and what can't we learn from it?  
 To answer the question: In what ways was the Indus Valley civilisation similar to other early civilisations?  
 To answer the question: In what ways was the Indus Valley civilisation different from other early civilisations?  
 To answer the question: Why is Shang dynasty China considered to be an early civilisation?  
 To answer the question: What are the similarities and differences between the ancient civilisations?  
**The planning document contains the knowledge for each of these questions.**



**Prior Learning:**

Britain during the Bronze Age allows the children to have a grounding in the development of Bronze and these civilisations in the time period studied is their Bronze Age.

What a source is and how this can be used by historians.

**Local Links:**

Chinese Cultural Centre have artefacts from Shang China available.

**Skills:**

Understand chronology – a timeline shows a period of time. Time is linear and we can show when things happened. A timeline can be used to show blocks of time or individual events. The overlapping nature of the civilisations being studied.

Looking at artefacts and objects and talking about what they notice. Making links between them. Exploring both physical and digital artefacts.

Asking questions about the past and using developing knowledge to begin to answer these. Making connections between different civilisations.

**Possible enrichment:**

[The "Standard" of Ur - 3D model by Glenn Gunhouse \(@gsugunhouse\) \[511ef3e\] \(sketchfab.com\)](#)

[Lost City of Mohenjo Daro, National Geographic](#)

[Collection | British Museum](#)