

History Medium Term Planning

Term: Spring 2	Year: 4	Topic/Unit: What happened to the Indus Valley civilisation?
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Pupils should be taught about the achievements of the earliest civilisations

Week	National Curriculum	Activity Outline	Skills and Knowledge Taught	Key Vocabulary
1	Develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history, establishing clear narratives within and across the periods they study	Create a timeline showing the lives and achievements of the people living in the Indus Valley. Discuss why it is difficult to know exactly what happened to the civilisation due to the lack of recording and difficulty understanding the language. Consider the Indus Valley in relation to British history, identifying this on the timeline.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order significant events on a timeline • Describe the main changes in a period of history • Use vocabulary that shows a period such as “ancient civilisation” and “period” 	civilisation, language, recording, evidence, British history, timeline, achievements
2	Note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms.	Look at the role of religion in the Indus Valley including the importance of a Priest King. Religion and monarchy were combined and many of the laws were based on theocratic values. Consider that this might affect what information has been left for historians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask and answer questions about the past using sources • Use a range of sources to build an overview of what life was like in the past • Describe how past events have influence life today 	Indus Valley, Priest King, monarchy, religion, historians, laws, theocratic
3	Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources	Was the Indus Valley a peaceful place? Look at different sources of information showing that it was peaceful such as the tall walls, the role of religions and lack of weapons. Consider the opposite side of the argument showing skeletons found with damaged skulls and the mysterious disappearance of the civilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at different perspectives of the same event in history • Ask and answer questions about the past using sources • Use subject-specific words correctly when presenting 	peaceful, tall walls, religion, weapon, skulls, civilisation, mystery

4	Construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information.	Consider the writing found in the Indus Valley and try to recreate some of the writing. It is difficult for historians to translate the writing, affecting how we remember the civilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a range of sources to build an overview of what life was like in the past • Use sources to explain what was important to period in the past • Understand the concepts of similarity, difference and significance and use these to make connections 	writing, language, civilisation, recording
5	Note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms.	What happened to the Indus Valley? Consider some of the key theories including climate change, war and conflict, invasion and lack of trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at different perspectives of the same event in history • Describe features of past societies and periods of time • Present findings about the past using a range of methods 	war and conflict, invasion, trade, climate change, demise, disappearance, Indus Valley, theories
6	Address and sometimes devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference, and significance.	Who discovered the Indus Valley? Look at the key people involved in uncovering Harappa and its excavation including Alexander Cunningham and Rai Bahadur Daya Ram Sahni.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the main changes in a period of history • Present findings about the past using a range of methods • Describe how some past events have influenced life today 	Indus Valley, excavation, evidence, Harappa