5-8 Cross Curriculum Social Studies

What are Watersheds Extension
Sixth Grade Social Studies Extension
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SCA Theme
Watersheds

Focus Questions
Why did early civilizations begin near water?

Activity Synopsis
Using information from various encyclopedia articles and the internet, students will label an early civilization on a map. Students will write a report discussing the way the civilization began and how it depended upon the water.

Time Frame
2 class periods

Objectives
The learner will be able to:

- Explain why civilizations begin near water.
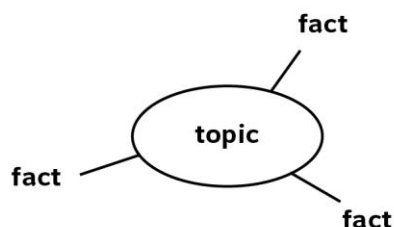- Given a map, label an early civilization.

Standards

Social Studies - 6-1.1, 6-1.2, 6-3.1, 6-4.4, 7-1.5, 7-6.6

Materials

- Library resources
- Internet
- Maps (Social Studies textbook)

Procedure

1. Provide a general overview of why early civilizations began near water. Define the terms: Fertile Crescent, migration and agriculture.
2. Place the names of the early civilizations on strips of paper. Have students draw for their topic.
3. Take the students to the library and computer lab to find information about their civilization.
4. Have them identify the spot where their early civilization began on a world map in their Social Studies textbook.
5. Next, they should record facts about their topic using a web (see below). Make sure they attach this web to their report.
6. Have them look at a map of South Carolina to see where the major cities are located. Are they found near water? Ask them why they think that is. Discuss.

Assessment

Have each student write and report. The report should include:
- When the civilization began
- Where the civilization began
- How the civilization used water
- How the civilization flourished

Scoring rubric out of 100 points

Including when and where it began   20 points
Including how it used water   40 points
Including how it flourished   40 points