

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

CUBE CODE

Mesopotamia is partly in what land in the world?

 A. Tigris & Euphrates

 B. Euphrates & Thames

 C. Tigris & Seine

 D. Euphrates & Nile

Which group recorded Mesopotamia's history on clay tablets?

 A. Assyrians

 B. Babylonians

 C. Akkadians

 D. Sumerians

Where was King Ashurbanipal's library?

 A. Uruk

 B. Kish

 C. Nineveh

 D. Lagash

The number of laws the Code of Hammurabi included MINUS 280.

The FIRST number of the lock is the number of city-states the Sumer were divided into MINUS 4.

The THIRD number of the lock is the number of years the Babylonian Empire lasted for MINUS 251.

STATION 2:
 First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an EVEN numbered paragraph, leaving only ODD numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

STATION 3:
 Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds to the statement. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. After you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. Code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA
 Mesopotamia means "the land between rivers." Ancient Mesopotamia refers to the land in the Middle East (Southwest Asia) between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. Because of its location between the rivers, the soil was very fertile (good for crops). The two rivers flowed into the Persian Gulf which is also known as "The Fertile Crescent."
 Mesopotamia is often called the "Cradle of Civilization" because it is where the first civilization was born. A civilization is a group of people with their own systems and ways of life. The land was perfect for producing crops with its fertile soil, rainfall, and warm climate. From there, the world's first cities grew. Society, laws, and kings were common. Today, this land is located mostly in the country of Iraq and partly in Turkey.

THINK TANK

STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning skills to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. Each missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was found in an ODD numbered paragraph, leaving only EVEN numbers as your final code (in the order of questions). Paragraph numbers MAY be used more than one time or not at all.

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. If the statement is true, color or shade the coin that corresponds with that question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. One digit of the code has been provided for you. If the total is 625, a 6 would go in the first box, the 2 in the second box and so on.

STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, simply put a zero in the box.

STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

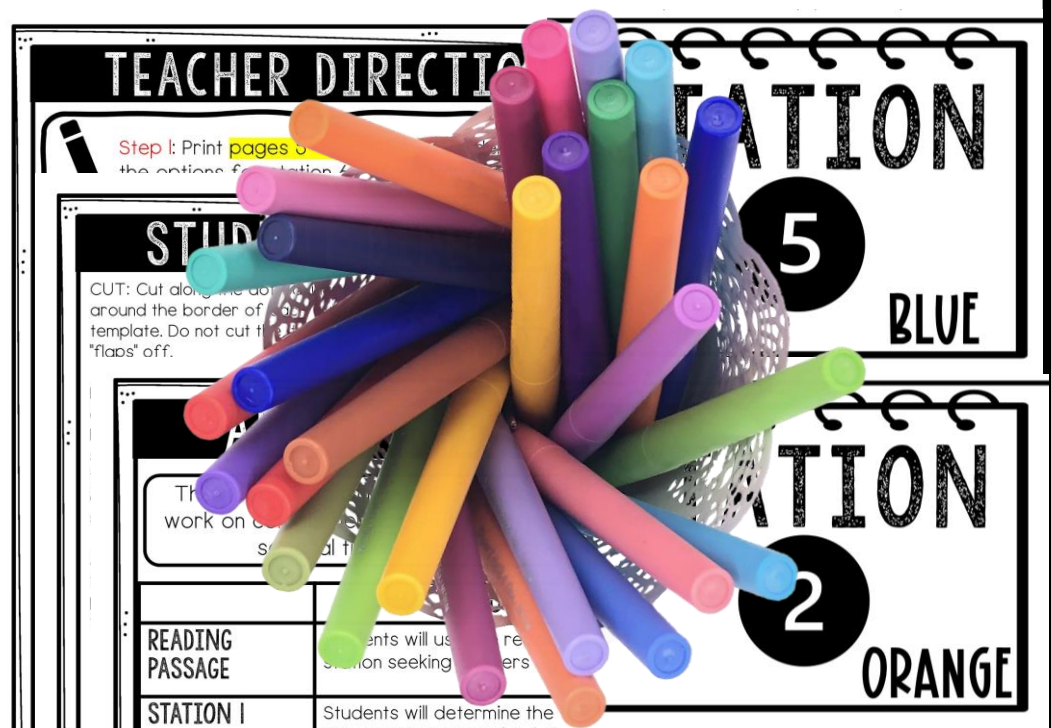
STATION

1

RED

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- READING PASSAGE
- 6 STATIONS
- TEACHER GUIDE
- STATION CARDS
- ANSWER KEY
- STUDENT DIRECTIONS
- TEXT MARKING OPTION
- ALTERNATE STATION
- ASSEMBLY TIPS



6 STATIONS

STATION 1:

Use your reading passage or deductive reasoning to determine the missing words in the paragraph below. The missing word has a corresponding NUMBER. The 4-digit code will be the NUMBER of each missing word in the same order in which they appear in the paragraph.

STATION

1

RED

STATION 6:

Reread the passage and write the main idea in your own words. Then, add TWO supporting details that back up your main idea or topic sentence.

STATION

6

SUPPORTING DETAIL #1



SUPPORTING DETAIL #2

STATION 4:

Use your reading passage to determine the combination to the 4-digit lock. You're going to have to use your critical thinking skills and do a tiny bit of math. Pay attention because the "clues" below are NOT in order.

The LAST number of the lock is the year Mesopotamia became the

STATION

4

GREEN

STATION 5:

Answer each multiple choice question below. Then, count the number of times you used each letter answer (ABCD) to reveal your 4 digit code. Answer options may be used more than once or not at all. If a letter option is not used, simply put a zero in the box.

STATION

5

BLUE

Today, Mesopotamia is located partly in what country?

- A. Turkey
- B. Iran
- C. Syria
- D. All of the above

Mesopotamia refers to the land in the Middle East between what two rivers?

- A. Tigris & Euphrates

What was the first town created in Mesopotamia?

- A. Ziggurat
- B. Mohenjo-daro
- C. Step Pyramid
- D. Cult of the Dead

- A. Persians
- B. Babylonians
- C. Akkadians
- D. Sumerians

- A. Uruk
- B. Kish
- C. Nineveh
- D. Lagash

A B C D

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. Write the number of the statement in the box. If the statement is false, write the number of the question in the box. If the statement is true, write the number of the first letter of the word in the box.

STATION

3

YELLOW

A 75

B 25

C 50

D 100

- C. Mesopotamia was approximately 100 miles long and 150 miles wide.
- D. The Babylonian Empire lasted just 66 years.
- E. Today, most Mesopotamian buildings and creations cannot be seen.
- F. Mesopotamia is often called the cradle of civilization.
- G. The city of Babylon was the most powerful city in Mesopotamian history.
- H. The Persian Empire was founded by Alexander the Great.

4 DIGIT CODE



STATION 2:

First, number ALL the paragraphs on your reading passage. Then, read each statement below and determine which paragraph NUMBER the statement can be found in. Lastly, eliminate ANY answer where the answer was not found in the paragraph. Only ODD numbers are allowed. Write the numbers in the boxes below.

STATION

2

ORANGE

A The Sumerians were the dominant power in Mesopotamia for 3000 years.

B Mesopotamia was the first town created in the Middle East.

C The city of Uruk was the first of the major cities founded.

D The Akkadian ruler named Sargon took control of Kish and conquered the Sumerians.

E The Babylonian Empire was also called the Neo-Babylonian Empire and was founded by Nebuchadnezzar the Great.

F The Persian Empire was founded by Alexander the Great.

G The city of Babylon was the most powerful city in Mesopotamian history.

H The Persian Empire was founded by Alexander the Great.

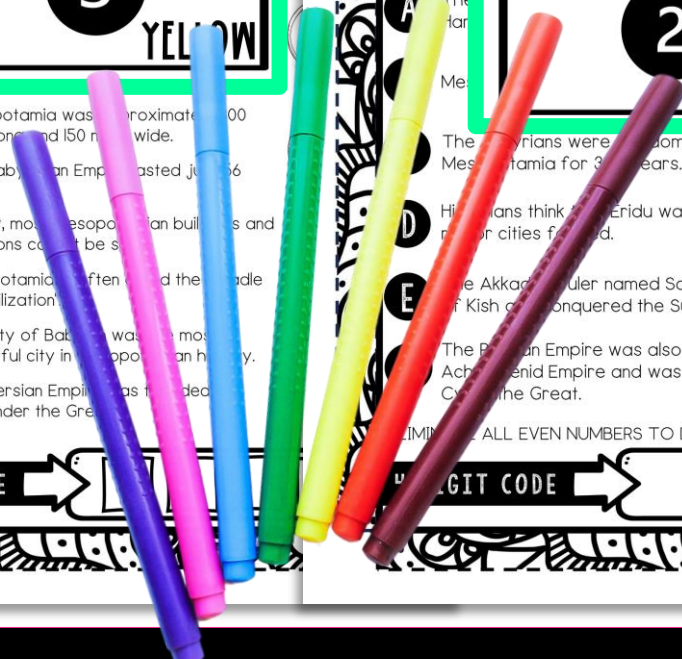
I The city of Uruk was the first of the major cities founded.

J The city of Uruk was the first of the major cities founded.

K The city of Uruk was the first of the major cities founded.

ELIMINATE ALL EVEN NUMBERS TO DETERMINE THE FINAL CODE.

4 DIGIT CODE



SAMPLE CUBE




STATIONS

STATION 1	Students will determine the missing words in the paragraph to reveal a 4 digit code.
STATION 2	Students will number the paragraphs and browse the passage to determine where the answers can be found (paragraph number). After eliminating EVEN numbers, a 4 digit code will be revealed.
STATION 3	Students will read each statement and determine if it is true or false. They will then ADD all TRUE values to find the 4 digit code.
STATION 4	Students will do some basic math here, read the passage to find the answers and then determine the 4 digit code.
STATION 5	Students will answer 6 multiple choice questions which lead them to a 4 digit code based on the number of times they used each "answer".
STATION 6	Option 1: Main idea writing activity Option 2: Color and add topic
TEXT MARKING	OPTIONAL: A color code chart is included in case you want students to mark the text citing evidence of where they found their answers.

**STUDENTS WILL
USE THE SAME
READING
PASSAGE AT
EACH STATION
SEEKING
ANSWERS AND
TEXT EVIDENCE.**

HOW IT WORKS



ENGAGING READING COMPREHENSION PRACTICE!

1

Students work individually (or in pairs) and visit 6 stations, grabbing one side of their cube at each station.

2

Students will answer the questions (found directly in the passage) on their cube sheet before assembly. Students will revisit their reading passage at EACH station!

3

Students will reveal 4-digit codes to move on to the next station. When they finish all stations, they can color and assemble their cube.

STATION

Read each statement below and determine if the statement is true, color or shade the corresponding question. If the statement is false, cross it out. When you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE statements. A code has been provided for you. If the total is 75, write the 7 in the first box and the 5 in the second box and so on.

A 75

A. In 1927, Mesopotamia became a part of Syria.

B 25

B. The largest and most powerful city of the Sumer was Uruk.

C 50

C. Mesopotamia was approximately 150 miles long and 150 miles wide.

D 100

D. The Babylonian Empire lasted for 100 years.

E. Today, most Mesopotamian buildings and creations cannot be seen.

F. Mesopotamia is often called the "Cradle of Civilization".

G. The city of Babylon was the most powerful city in Mesopotamian history.

H. The Persian Empire was founded by Alexander the Great.

4 DIGIT CODE →

COMBINATION



Each Cube Code is a winning combination of:



- stations and movement
- close reading
- comprehension skills
- coloring and stress relief
- secret codes
- cut and paste
- citing evidence
- critical thinking

Everything a teacher dreams of wrapped up into one FUN and engaging activity!

BENEFITS



THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!

-  ANTICIPATORY SETS
-  UNIT REVIEW
-  EARLY FINISHERS
-  STATIONS
-  SUB PLANS
-  PARTNER WORK
-  ENRICHMENT

-  HANDS-ON
-  CROSS-CURRICULAR
-  HIGHLY ENGAGING

