

ZIGGURATS OF MESOPOTAMIA

CUBE 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 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 question. If the statement is false, cross out that coin value. Once you are finished add the TOTAL of ALL TRUE coin values. The 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.

ZIGGURATS
Mesopotamia, meaning "the land between rivers," was located between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in the Middle East (mostly present-day Iraq). The rivers flowed to the Persian Gulf, and that area was known as the "Fertile Crescent." There, the first civilization came into existence thousands of years ago. A civilization is a group of people with their own way of life. Ancient Mesopotamia featured four major empires or civilizations. Very large and tall step-like structures were created as places of worship. These structures, known as ziggurats, were located in major cities. The ziggurats honored the main god of each city. Mesopotamia had a polytheistic religion, which meant they worshipped many deities or gods.

THINK TANK

4 DIGIT CODE

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.

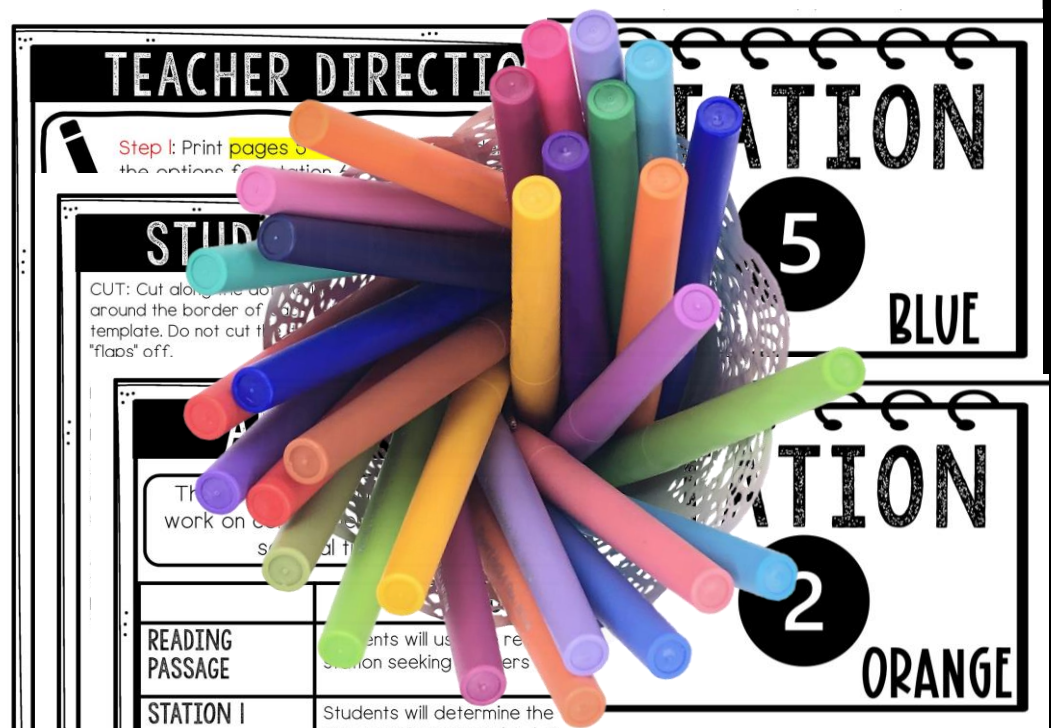
STATION

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 number of ziggurats that are

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

STATION 3:

Read each statement below and determine if it is true or false. Write the number of true statements in the box. Then, add the number of false statements to the number of true statements to determine your 4 digit code.

STATION

3

YELLOW

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 number of paragraphs is not equal to the number of digits in the code.

STATION

2

ORANGE

A B C D

4 DIGIT 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, the 5 in the second box and so on.

A 75 Enll was the god of the earth and agriculture.

B 25 Priests were considered very important and believed to be the closest to the gods on earth.

C 50 Ziggurats commonly had layers of a grass-like plant called reeds and mud.

D 100 Chogha Zanbil in modern day Iran stood to be 800 feet tall.

E Mesopotamia means "the land between the rivers."

F Much of the knowledge about Ancient Mesopotamia comes from the Library of Nineveh.

G Ancient Mesopotamia featured numerous empires or civilizations.

H The ziggurats resembled Egyptian pyramids, but they were not used for burials.

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

