

# DRAFT

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## For Review Purposes Only

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These draft materials are intended to provide teachers with insight into the content and structure of the Listening & Learning strand of Core Knowledge Language Arts materials.

Revised materials produced specifically for NYSED, including materials from the Skills Strand, will be posted on this site in 2013. These new materials will include explicit alignment with Common Core State Standards, additional support for English Language Learners, and images and texts compliant with Creative Commons Licensing.

For more information on how to explore these materials, please see the Getting Started resources posted alongside these files on [EngageNY.org](http://EngageNY.org).





The Core Knowledge Language Arts Program

Listening & Learning Strand



Tell It Again! Read-Aloud Anthology  
Early World Civilizations



Published by the Core Knowledge Foundation

[www.coreknowledge.org](http://www.coreknowledge.org)

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PRINTED IN CANADA

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# Introduction to Early World Civilizations



This introduction includes the necessary background information to be used in teaching the Early World Civilizations domain. The *Tell It Again! Read-Aloud Anthology* for Early World Civilizations contains sixteen daily lessons, each of which is composed of two distinct parts, so that the lesson may be divided into smaller chunks of time and presented at different intervals during the day. The entire lesson will require a total of sixty minutes.

We have included three Pausing Points in this domain, one after Lesson 4 when students have covered all of the lessons on Mesopotamia, another after Lesson 12 at the end of the ancient Egypt section, and another after Lesson 16 upon covering three world religions. You may wish to pause and spend one to two days reviewing, reinforcing, or extending the material taught prior to the Pausing Point. You should spend no more than twenty-two days total on this domain.

Along with this anthology, you will need:

- *Tell It Again! Media Disk* or the *Tell It Again! Flip Book* for Early World Civilizations
- *Tell It Again! Image Cards* for Early World Civilizations
- *Tell It Again! Workbook* for Early World Civilizations

You will find the Instructional Objectives and Core Vocabulary for this domain below. The lessons that include Student Choice/ Domain-Related Trade Book Extensions, Image Cards, Parent Letters, Instructional Masters, and Assessments are also listed in the information below.

## **Why Early World Civilizations Are Important**

This domain will introduce your students to the development of early civilizations by examining the fundamental features of civilizations, including the advent of farming, establishment of

cities and government, and other practices, such as writing and religion. It should be noted that the word “civilization,” as used in this domain, is not meant to convey a value judgment but to indicate that a group of people collectively established and shared these practices. Specifically, students will start their study in the ancient Middle East with Mesopotamia. They will learn about the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, the development of cuneiform as the earliest form of writing, the first codification of laws known as the Code of Hammurabi, as well as the significance of gods and goddesses in the “cradle of civilization.”

Students will be able to make comparisons and contrasts between that region and ancient Egypt, which they will study next. They will learn about the importance of the Nile River, the use of hieroglyphs as the way of writing, the rise of pharaohs, including Tutankhamun and Hatshepsut, the building of the Sphinx and pyramids, as well as the significance of mummification and the afterlife for ancient Egyptians.

In the first two parts of the domain, we introduce the concept of religion (polytheism) in Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt as one of the major shaping forces of those civilizations. The end of the domain provides a historical introduction to the development of three world religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—which are all characterized by a belief in only one God. The first read-aloud on religion acts as an introduction for the next three and connects the knowledge presented to what students have already learned about the early civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt. This part of the domain will help provide students a basic vocabulary for understanding many events and ideas in history throughout later grades. **Since this is a sensitive topic, we highly recommend that you read our disclaimer found on pp. 141–142 and also send home the parent letter (Instructional Master 13B-1 on pp. 209–210) well in advance of teaching this last section of the domain.**

Students will build in later grades upon the knowledge of civilizations and religions that they gain by listening to and discussing the read-alouds in this domain; the concepts and factual information that they learn now will serve as building blocks for exploration of other world civilizations.

## **What Students Have Already Learned in Core Knowledge Language Arts During Kindergarten**

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Students who participated in the Kindergarten Listening and Learning Strand of the Core Knowledge Language Arts Program have already started building general oral and written language skills, as well as the background knowledge and vocabulary that are critical to listening and reading comprehension in later years. In kindergarten, they listened to read-alouds of various genres, with increasing length and complexity, and learned to answer questions orally about what they heard. Students were introduced to certain literary terms—such as author, illustrator, character, setting, and plot—which enabled them to talk about the elements of literature to which they were exposed.

In addition, students learned specific content knowledge from the nonfiction read-alouds. With the exception of general information about farming, the content of Early World Civilizations will be new to students.

### ***Instructional Objectives for Early World Civilizations***

The following chart contains all of the Core Content Objectives and Language Arts Objectives for this domain, broken down by lesson.

## Early World Civilizations Overview

Objectives	Lessons															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Core Content</b>																
Locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Asia	✓	✓	✓	✓												
Explain the importance of rivers, canals, and flooding to support farming in Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt	✓				✓											
Describe the city of Babylon	✓			✓												
Identify and describe the significance of structures built in Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt				✓				✓	✓							
Identify the way of writing in Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt		✓				✓										
Explain why writing is important to a civilization		✓				✓										
Describe the Code of Hammurabi		✓														
Explain why rules and laws are important to the development of a civilization		✓		✓												
Recognize how a leader is important to the development of a civilization		✓		✓												
Describe aspects of religion in Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt			✓	✓			✓									
Identify Mesopotamia as the “Cradle of Civilization”				✓												
Understand that a civilization evolves and changes over time				✓												
Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Explain that much of Egypt is the Sahara Desert									✓							
Identify and explain the significance of Hatshepsut and Tutankhamun as pharaohs of ancient Egypt										✓	✓	✓				
Describe key components of a civilization	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Understand that much of what we know about ancient Egypt is because of the work of archaeologists											✓	✓				
Identify Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as major monotheistic world religions													✓	✓	✓	✓
Locate Jerusalem and the area known as the Middle East on a map													✓			

Objectives	Lessons															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Core Content</b>																
Define monotheism as the belief in one God													✓			
Identify the Western Wall (or the Wailing Wall) as associated with Judaism, the church of the Holy Sepulchre with Christianity, and the Dome of the Rock with Islam													✓			
Identify the Hebrews as the ancient people who were descendants of Abraham														✓		
Identify the names for followers of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam														✓	✓	✓
Identify Moses, Jesus Christ, and Muhammad and their significance														✓	✓	✓
Demonstrate familiarity with holidays associated with Judaism, Christianity, and Islam														✓	✓	✓
Recognize symbols for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam														✓	✓	✓
Identify the holy books of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam														✓	✓	✓
Identify places of worship for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam														✓	✓	✓
Understand that the religion of Christianity developed after Judaism															✓	
Recognize that both Christians and Jews follow the Ten Commandments															✓	
Understand that Islam originated in Arabia																✓
<b>Language Arts</b>																
Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions . . . (L.1.1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ask questions to clarify . . . classroom routines (L.1.2)	✓					✓	✓	✓				✓				
Carry on and participate in a conversation . . . (L.1.3)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Learn common sayings and phrases such as “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you” (L.1.9)	✓															
Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related . . . (L.1.10)			✓	✓				✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Listen to and understand a variety of texts . . . (L.1.11)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Make predictions (orally or in writing) prior to and during a read-aloud . . . (L.1.12)					✓				✓	✓						✓
Describe illustrations (orally or in writing) (L.1.13)	✓															

Objectives	Lessons															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Core Content</b>																
Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding . . . (L.1.14)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud . . . (L.1.17)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)				✓		✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Use narrative language to describe (orally or in writing) characters, a setting, facts, or events in a read-aloud (L.1.19)									✓							
Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions . . . (L.1.20)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences . . . (L.1.21)					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓			
Make personal connections (orally or in writing) . . . (L.1.22)		✓	✓	✓		✓								✓	✓	✓
With assistance, create and interpret timelines . . . (L.1.23)				✓												
Draw pictures, dictate, or write simple sentences to represent details or information from a read-aloud (L.1.24)	✓			✓												
Evaluate and select read-alouds, books, or poems on the basis of personal choice for rereading (L.1.27)									✓							
Share writing with others (L.1.29)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓				
Demonstrate understanding (orally or in writing) of literary language . . . (L.1.32)					✓											
Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
With assistance, categorize and organize facts and information . . . (L.1.38)													✓	✓	✓	✓

## ***Core Vocabulary for Early World Civilizations***

The following list contains all of the boldfaced words in Early World Civilizations in the forms in which they appear in the read-alouds. The inclusion of the words on this list *does not* mean that students are expected to immediately be able to use all of these words on their own. However, through repeated exposure throughout the lessons, they should acquire a good understanding of most of these words and begin to use some of them in conversation.

**Lesson 1**

banks  
canals  
flow  
reservoir  
trade

**Lesson 2**

cuneiform  
records  
scribes  
symbols  
tablets

**Lesson 3**

gods/goddesses  
priests  
religion  
temples  
ziggurat

**Lesson 4**

caravan  
chariots  
merchant  
platforms

**Lesson 5**

advantage  
Egyptians  
enriched  
flooding

**Lesson 6**

accurately  
hieroglyphs

**Lesson 7**

blossom  
depicted  
lotus

**Lesson 8**

afterlife  
architect  
journey  
pyramid  
treasure

**Lesson 9**

base  
Sphinx  
tugged  
visible

**Lesson 10**

accomplishments  
counselors  
declare  
pharaohs  
tradition

**Lesson 11**

archaeologist  
authority  
passage  
tomb  
valuable

**Lesson 12**

priceless  
sarcophagus  
triumph

**Lesson 13**

Christianity  
faithful  
shrine  
Islam  
Judaism

**Lesson 14**

Hebrew  
Jew  
Jewish  
prophet  
rabbi  
synagogue

**Lesson 15**

Christian  
church  
eternal  
Messiah  
miracle

**Lesson 16**

fasting  
mosque  
Muslim  
prayer  
similarities

## ***Student Choice and Domain-Related Trade Book Extensions***

In the *Tell It Again! Read-Aloud Anthology* for Early World Civilizations, Student Choice activities are suggested in the Pausing Points and in Lesson 9B. Domain-Related Trade Book activities are suggested in the Pausing Points and in Lessons 7B, 14B, 15B, and 16B. A list of recommended titles is included at the end of this introduction, or you may select another title of your choice.

## ***Early World Civilizations Image Cards***

There are fourteen Image Cards for Early World Civilizations. The Image Cards can be used to show examples of each component of civilization the students will study. Image Cards will be used to make a Civilizations Chart of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt and to help students compare and contrast specific components of the civilizations as well as review what they have learned in previous lessons. In the *Tell It Again! Read-Aloud Anthology* for Early World Civilizations Image Cards are referenced in Pausing Point 1, Pausing Point 2, and in Lessons 1–12.

## ***Instructional Masters and Parent Take-Home Letters***

Blackline Instructional Masters and Parent Take-Home Letters are included in the *Tell It Again! Workbook*.

In the *Tell It Again! Read-Aloud Anthology* for Early World Civilizations, Instructional Masters are referenced in the Domain Assessment and in Lessons 4B, 6B, 10B, 11B, 13B, 14B, 15B, and 16B. The Parent Letters are referenced in Lessons 1B, 5B, and 13B.

## ***Assessments***

In the *Tell It Again! Read-Aloud Anthology* for Early World Civilizations, Instructional Masters DA-1, DA-2, DA-3, and DA-4 are used for this purpose. Use the following *Tens Conversion Chart* to convert a raw score on each assessment into a Tens score.



## **Recommended Trade Books for Early World Civilizations**

If you recommend that parents read aloud with their child each night, you may wish to suggest that they choose titles from this trade book list to reinforce the domain concepts.

1. *Archaeologists Dig for Clues (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out-Science 2)*, by Kate Duke (HarperTrophy, 1996) ISBN 0064451755

### **Mesopotamia**

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2. *Ancient Mesopotamia (Let's See Library)*, by Cynthia Fitterer Klingel and Robert B. Noyed (Compass Point Books, 2002) ISBN 0756502942
3. *Gilgamesh the King (The Gilgamesh Trilogy)*, by Ludmila Zeman (Tundra Books, 1998) ISBN 0887764371
4. *Mesopotamia*, edited by E.D. Hirsch, Jr. (Pearson Learning, 2002) ISBN 0769050042

### **Ancient Egypt**

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5. *Ancient Egypt*, edited by E.D. Hirsch, Jr. (Pearson Learning, 2002) ISBN 0769050050
6. *Bill and Pete Go Down the Nile*, by Tomie DePaola (The Putnam and Grosset Group, 1987) ISBN 0698114019
7. *The Egyptian Cinderella*, by Shirley Climo (HarperCollins, 1989) ISBN 0064432793
8. *Egyptian Gods and Goddesses (All Aboard Reading)*, by Henry Barker (Grosset and Dunlap, 1999) ISBN 0448420295
9. *Egyptians (Beginners' Social Studies)*, by Stephanie Turnbull and Colin King (Usborne Books, 2007) ISBN 0794513441
10. *The 5000-Year-Old Puzzle: Solving a Mystery of Ancient Egypt*, by Claudia Logan and Melissa Sweet (Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, 2002) ISBN 0374323356
11. *Mummies and Pyramids (Magic Tree House Research Guide)*, by Will Osborne and Mary Pope Osborne (A Stepping Stone Book, 2001) ISBN 0375802983

12. *Mummies in the Morning (Magic Tree House Book)*, by Mary Pope Osborne (Random House Books for Young Readers, 1993) ISBN 0679824244
13. *Mummies Made in Egypt*, by Aliko (HarperTrophy, 1985) ISBN 0064460118
14. *The Nile River (Rookie Read-About Geography)*, by Allan Fowler (Children's Press, 2000) ISBN 0516265598
15. *Season of the Sandstorms (Magic Tree House, No. 34)*, by Mary Pope Osborne and Sal Murdocca (Random House Books for Young Readers, 2006) ISBN 0375830324
16. *Seeker of Knowledge: The Man Who Deciphered Egyptian Hieroglyphs*, by James Rumford (Houghton Mifflin, 2003) ISBN 0618333452

### **Three World Religions**

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17. *Abraham's Search for God*, by Jacqueline Jules (Kar-Ben Publishing, 2007) ISBN 1580132435
18. *Celebrate Hanukkah With Light, Latkes and Dreidels*, by Deborah Heiligman (National Geographic, 2006) ISBN 0792259254
19. *Exodus*, by Brian Wildsmith (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 1998) ISBN 0802851754
20. *It's Seder Time!*, by Latifa Berry Kropf (Kar-Ben Publishing, 2004) ISBN 1580130925
21. *Jesus*, by Brian Wildsmith (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2000) ISBN 0802852122
22. *Joseph*, by Brian Wildsmith (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 1997) ISBN 0802851611
23. *The Miracles of Jesus*, by Tomie de Paola (Penguin Group, 2008) ISBN 0142410684
24. *My First Ramadan*, by Karen Katz (Henry Holt and Co., 2007) ISBN 0805078940
25. *My Muslim Year*, by Cath Senker (Wayland, 2003) ISBN 0750240536

26. *On Shabbat*, by Cathy Goldberg Fishman (Atheneum, 2001) ISBN 06898389948
27. *One World, Many Religions: The Ways We Worship*, by Mary Pope Osborne (Knopf Books for Young Readers, 1996) ISBN 0679839305
28. *The Parables of Jesus*, by Tomie de Paola (Holiday House, Inc., 1995) ISBN 0823411962
29. *Sammy Spider's First Rosh Hashanah*, by Sylvia A. Rouss (Kar-Ben Publishing, 1996) ISBN 0929371992
30. *Three World Religions*, edited by E.D. Hirsch, Jr. (Pearson Learning, 2002) ISBN 0769050059
31. *Under the Ramadan Moon*, by Sylvia Whitman (Albert Whitman & Company, 2008) ISBN 0807583043

# 1

## *A Father and His Son in Mesopotamia*



### **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Core Content Objectives**

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Students will:

- Locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Asia
- Explain the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, and the use of canals, to support farming
- Describe the city of Babylon

#### **Language Arts Objectives**

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Ask questions to clarify directions, exercises, and/or classroom routines (L.1.2)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Describe illustrations (orally or in writing) (L.1.13)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)

- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Draw pictures, dictate, or write simple sentences to represent details or information from a read-aloud (L.1.24)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

## Core Vocabulary

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**banks, n.** The land that slopes down on the sides of a river  
*Example:* After they fished, the children sat on the banks of the river to eat their lunch.

*Variation(s):* bank

**canals, n.** Ditches dug into the land to move water from one place to another; may also be used for transportation

*Example:* The city built canals so that ships could bring goods to the people.

*Variation(s):* canal

**flow, v.** To move continually

*Example:* The water will flow from the faucet over my hands and into the sink.

*Variation(s):* flows, flowed, flowing

**reservoir, n.** A natural or man-made area where water is stored for future use

*Example:* The city has a reservoir to supply its people with water.

*Variation(s):* reservoirs

**trade, v.** To exchange goods

*Example:* I plan to trade my crayons for markers when we have our market day at school.

*Variation(s):* trades, traded, trading

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Domain Introduction</b>		10
	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>A Father and His Son in Mesopotamia</b>	world map or globe	15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Banks</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Cards 1 and 2 chart paper	20
	<b>Drawing the Read-Aloud</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	
<i><b>Take-Home Material</b></i>	<b>Parent Letter</b>	Instructional Master 1B-1	

# 1A

## *A Father and His Son in Mesopotamia*



### **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

#### **Domain Introduction**

---

Tell the students that for the next few weeks they will pretend to travel back in time to learn how two different groups of people lived thousands of years ago. Explain to students that the word *ancient* can be used to describe the time period in which these people lived. Tell students that the word *ancient* means very, very old or long, long ago. Tell the students that they will learn how people lived in a place known as Mesopotamia and also how people lived in ancient Egypt.

Explain to students that these people lived differently from the way we do today. There were no cars yet, no computers, no televisions or radios, no electric lights, and no refrigerators to keep food fresh and delicious. Tell students that although the lives of the ancient people who lived long ago were very different, there were many ways that we are just like them. These ancient peoples laughed together; they loved the people in their families and tried hard to take care of them; they helped their friends; and they wanted to live safely and comfortably.

#### **Where Are We?**

---

Show students a map of the world (or use a globe). Ask them to locate Asia. Point to the area known as the Middle East. Tell the students that this area of Asia is called the Middle East. Point to Iraq and explain that Iraq is one of the countries in the Middle East. Ask students if they have heard of the Middle East or Iraq. Have students share any knowledge they have of this area.

Explain that people have been living in this area for thousands of years, but the area has not always been called the Middle East. Explain that in ancient times part of it was called Mesopotamia.



← **Show image 1A-1: The desert**

Have students describe the picture. Explain to students that this is a picture of the desert and that the land around Mesopotamia was mostly desert. Explain to students that it does not rain very much in the desert. It is so dry that it is hard for many plants and animals to live there.

Tell students that it is easier for plants and animals to live in areas with fertile land. Explain that *fertile* means the soil in these areas is rich in nutrients and water, making it easier for plants and animals to flourish.



← **Show image 1A-2: Warad and Iddin**

Explain to students that in today's read-aloud they will hear about a special part of Mesopotamia where the land isn't desert; it is fertile (meaning it is easy for plants and animals to live there). They will hear a story about a father and his son who lived in Mesopotamia in ancient times. Point to the man in the picture and explain that this is the father whose name is Warad (WAH-red). Have students repeat the name *Warad* after you. Point to the boy in the picture and explain that this is Warad's son, Iddin (ID-din). Have the students repeat the name *Iddin* after you.

### **Purpose for Listening**

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Tell the students that there were rivers in Mesopotamia just as there are rivers in the United States. These rivers made the land around them fertile, so that plants and animals could live around them. Tell the class to listen carefully to learn the names of two rivers in Mesopotamia and how they were important to the people of Mesopotamia.

## A Father and His Son in Mesopotamia



### ← Show image 1A-3: Warad and Iddin walking on bank of Euphrates

1 The banks are the sloping ground on the sides of the river. (Point to the bank in the image.)

2 or move continuously

Almost four thousand years ago, a father and a son were walking together on the **banks** of a great river, close to what was then possibly the biggest city in the world: Babylon.<sup>1</sup> The father, whose name was Warad (WAH-red), said to his son Iddin (ID-din), “See, my son: the great Euphrates (YOU-FRAY-teez) River. If this river did not **flow**,<sup>2</sup> there would be no wonderful city of Babylon, no palaces, no gardens, not even any houses.”

Iddin said, “But I don’t understand, Father. Did all these things appear out of the water?”



### ← Show image 1A-4: Warad and Iddin sitting on a bench

“No,” his father laughed. “No one just floated the palaces down here or pulled them from the water. Let me explain, Iddin.” They sat down on a bench overlooking the wide river, which rolled before them, reflecting the palaces and religious temples that rose high on both banks of the river.



### ← Show image 1A-5: First people farming

3 or decided to live

4 Why is the desert not a good place to grow crops?

“The first people who lived along this river realized that the land surrounding the river had rich soil for planting crops, like wheat and barley for bread. These people settled<sup>3</sup> along the river because the land farther away from the river was desert and the desert is not a very good place to grow crops.<sup>4</sup> So, these people built their homes along the river so that they could grow crops to feed themselves and their families.

“But why do you think people built our city right here?”

“Because of the water?”

“Yes. The river water kept alive the plants that were grown for food. Now look around.”



← **Show image 1A-6: Warad and Iddin sitting on a bench**

5 (Indicate this motion as you read.)

And Warad waved his hand in a circle.<sup>5</sup> “Now we have our great and beautiful Babylon. Of course, the people that settled in Babylon weren’t the only ones who had the good idea to settle along the river. Other people came and settled up and down the river forming other towns and cities.

6 What other things do you think the people used the river for?

“Soon, people realized they could use the Euphrates for more than just growing food. What else do you think they discovered they could use the river for?” Warad asked his son.<sup>6</sup>

Iddin thought for a moment, then asked, “To carry things from one city to another like we do today?”



← **Show image 1A-7: People on the river**

7 Trade means to exchange goods.

“Correct!” his father bellowed, “They traveled in boats up and down the river to **trade** with people from other cities.”<sup>7</sup> The cities soon traded crops, material to make clothing, and other items that they needed. The Euphrates River is not the only river that is used in this way. People also use the Tigris River to grow crops and to trade with other cities.”<sup>8</sup>

8 (Show students the Tigris River on a map. Remind them that Warad and Iddin are walking along the Euphrates River.) Both rivers were used in Mesopotamia for growing crops and trading.

“It is hard to think of a time when people did not use the river for growing crops and for traveling as we do today!” Iddin said.

9 Why was it harder? (Explain that the density of the people living around the river increased.)

Warad replied, “That it is. I have more to explain to you. You see, after awhile, many people had made their homes along the Euphrates, and some had land farther back from the river. Soon, it was difficult for everyone to reach the water easily.”<sup>9</sup> People started wondering if there was a way to get the water from the river to other parts of the city. Soon, they discovered that there was a way!”<sup>10</sup>

10 How do you think people were able to get the water to other parts of the city? Remember, this was before cars and trucks.



← **Show image 1A-8: Close-up of canals**

11 (Point to the canals in the picture.)

Iddin thought for a minute then exclaimed, “The **canals!**”

“Yes!” his father continued. “They dug ditches cut into the earth, which we call canals.”<sup>11</sup> The water flowed out of the river and through the canals to the areas of the city farther from the

12 How do you think the canals enabled the farmers to grow crops even where there were no rivers?

13 A reservoir is similar to a lake. It's a place where water is stored for future use.



river. Then farmers could grow crops even where the rivers didn't flow."<sup>12</sup>

"Our great king, Hammurabi (Hah-moo-RAH-bee), did the same thing. He had canals dug to move water all over our country from the two great rivers, the Tigris (TY-gris) and the Euphrates. And King Hammurabi and his helpers used an ancient way to collect rain water. When the winter rains come, the water doesn't just wash away downstream. They made the waters run into a **reservoir**, so that after the rains stopped, there would be water for drinking or for watering crops."<sup>13</sup> Once this was done, people could stay in one place near the river, and make that place better and better, until finally we had . . ."

← **Show image 1A-9: Warad and Iddin walking on street**

"Babylon!" exclaimed Iddin. "Our king, Hammurabi, must be the best king of all, father."

Warad agreed, "He is, indeed, a great king. And now I think it is time for us to head home, my son."

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

**15** minutes

### Comprehension Questions

**(10** minutes)

If students have difficulty responding to questions, reread pertinent passages of the read-aloud and/or refer to specific images. If students give one-word answers and/or fail to use read-aloud or domain vocabulary in their responses, acknowledge correct responses by expanding the students' responses using richer and more complex language. It is highly recommended that you ask students to answer in complete sentences by asking them to restate the question in their responses.

1. Was the land around the rivers fertile land or dry desert in Mesopotamia? (fertile)
2. How were the Euphrates River and the Tigris River important to the Mesopotamians? (People settled near the river to grow crops for food; it was used for transportation and for drinking.)

3. Why did the people dig canals? (to move water from the river to other places to support farming, and for transportation)
4. Were there cities in Mesopotamia? (yes) Do you remember the name of the city that was the setting of today’s read-aloud? (Babylon)
5. Why did people settle in Babylon near the Euphrates River? (People had settled there to grow crops, and it developed into a city.)
6. What kinds of goods would the people on the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers trade? (crops, clothing, and other items they needed)



← **Show image 1A-4: Warad and Iddin sitting on a bench**

7. How would you describe the city of Babylon? (There were lots of buildings, including a palace; it was near the river, etc.)
8. *What? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *what*. For example, you could ask, “What was the setting of today’s read-aloud?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your “what” question. Listen to your neighbor’s response. Then your neighbor will ask a new “what” question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

### **Word Work: Banks**

**(5 minutes)**

1. The read-aloud said, “Almost four thousand years ago, a father and a son were walking together on the *banks* of a great river, close to what was then possibly the biggest city in the world: Babylon.”
2. Say the word *banks* with me.
3. In the read-aloud we heard today, the banks of a river are the steep ground on the sides of the river. Can you think of another meaning for the word *banks*?
4. The river flowed over its banks and flooded the city.

5. Have you ever seen the banks of a river? Try to use the word *banks* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "I saw the banks of a river when I . . .")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Use a *Drawing and Writing* activity for follow-up. Have the students draw a picture showing a river with banks. You may want to model on the board how to draw the banks on the sides of the river. Talk about the colors of crayons that will be used to distinguish the river from its banks. Have the students write a sentence about their drawings being sure to use the word *banks*. Some students may need to dictate the sentence to an adult, while others will be able to write their own sentence.

Give the students the opportunity to share their drawings and writing.



### **Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 1B

## *A Father and His Son in Mesopotamia*



### **Extensions**

**20** minutes

#### **Civilizations Chart**

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On a piece of chart paper, draw the following chart. Each section will need to be large enough for an image card. This chart will be used throughout the domain to identify and compare components of the civilizations of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt.

	Farming	Cities	Writing	Leaders	Religion
Mesopotamia					
Ancient Egypt					

Show students Image Card 1 (farming). Talk about the image card and explain that it is a photo of an artifact from Mesopotamia. Have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about farming in Mesopotamia. Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the chart to help them remember that farming took place in Mesopotamia.

Show students Image Card 2 (Babylon). Talk about the image card and explain that it shows the city of Babylon. Have the students share what they learned from the read-aloud about Babylon. Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the chart to help them remember that there were cities in Mesopotamia.

#### **Drawing the Read-Aloud**

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Tell the students to think about the read-aloud that they listened to earlier in the day: “A Father and His Son in Mesopotamia.” Tell them to draw three details that they remember about the read-aloud, allowing no more than six to eight minutes for the drawing.

Explain that the drawing does not have to recreate a “scene” from the read-aloud or represent a coherent, integrated drawing of the read-aloud; the students may draw any three “things” they remember about the read-aloud. Tell the students to also write about each of the three things. Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write one word or a complete sentence.

Say: Asking questions is one way to make sure everyone knows what to do. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the directions I have just given you. For example, you could ask, “What should we do first?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your own question now. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

Give the students the opportunity to share their drawings and writings with a partner or the class. As the students share, expand their responses using richer and more complex language, including, if possible, any read-aloud vocabulary.

### **Parent Letter**

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Send home Instructional Master 1B-1.

# 2

## Writing in Mesopotamia



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Asia
- Identify cuneiform as the way of writing in Mesopotamia
- Explain why writing is important to a civilization
- Describe the Code of Hammurabi
- Explain why rules and laws are important to the development of a civilization
- Recognize how a leader is important to the development of a civilization

#### Language Arts Objectives

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Learn the common saying “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you” (L.1.9)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)

- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

## Core Vocabulary

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**cuneiform, n.** The way of writing in Mesopotamia using wedge-shaped symbols

*Example:* The teacher showed her class the cuneiform on the ancient tablet.

*Variation(s):* none

**records, n.** Written information

*Example:* My mother keeps records of all the people who visit her house by writing down their names in a special book.

*Variation(s):* record

**scribes, n.** People whose job it is to write things down

*Example:* The scribes wrote the laws on clay tablets.

*Variation(s):* scribe

**symbols, n.** Pictures or shapes used to stand for something else

*Example:* The letters of our alphabet are symbols for sounds.

*Variation(s):* symbol

**tablets, n.** Flat slabs of stone, clay, or wood, used especially for writing

*Example:* The explorer found a very old poem carved into stone tablets by people long ago.

*Variation(s):* tablet

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>	Civilizations Chart from previous lesson	
	<b>Personal Connections</b>	writing examples (Greek, Arabic, or Chinese)	
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Writing in Mesopotamia</b>		15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Symbols</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Cards 3 and 4	20
	<b>Sayings and Phrases: The Golden Rule</b>		

# 2A

## Writing in Mesopotamia



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### Where Are We?

---

Each day, have a different student locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map, and identify it as a part of Asia. Remind students that this entire region of the world is now called the Middle East and that the modern-day country of Iraq is located there.



#### What Have We Already Learned?

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← **Show image 2A-4: Iddin pointing to cuneiform**

Remind students that in the previous lesson, they learned about a father and son in Mesopotamia. Have a student point out Iddin in the picture (the boy pointing to the cuneiform), and have another student point out his father, Warad, in the picture. If students have trouble, point out the characters for them and have them repeat their names after you. Ask students if they recall what Warad and his son Iddin were talking about as they walked along the banks of the Euphrates River. Students should be able to point out that Warad was explaining the importance of the river to farming and the development of the city of Babylon. You may wish to review what you have filled out thus far on the chart begun in the last extension activity.

Ask: Who remembers what canals are? (Canals are ditches dug into the land to move water from one place to another; canals may also be used for transportation.) Say: King Hammurabi was responsible for building canals in Mesopotamia. He had canals dug to move water all over Mesopotamia from the two rivers, the Tigris and the Euphrates. King Hammurabi and his helpers also collected waters in a reservoir, so that there would be water for drinking and for watering crops. This allowed people to settle in one place near the river, and make that place better and better,

until it became the city of Babylon. Ask: Do you think Hammurabi was a good leader? (Answers may vary.)

Explain that today's read-aloud is a continuation of the read-aloud they heard previously. So, they will hear more about Warad and Iddin and they will meet another boy from Mesopotamia, Iddin's brother, Amur (AH-moor). Point to Amur in the picture and have students repeat the name *Amur* after you. As the father and his sons talk, tell students they will learn more about King Hammurabi and the decisions he made that helped shape the Mesopotamian civilization.

### **Personal Connections**

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Explain that today's read-aloud focuses on writing. Ask students how people use writing today. Encourage them to identify a wide range of uses for writing, including recording rules, making lists, communicating safety information, or as a means of self-expression.

Ask students what is needed in order to write in English. (e.g., pens or pencils, paper, knowledge of sounds and letters to represent them)

Remind students that people all over the world speak and write in many different languages. Ask students if all languages use the same letters. You may find it helpful to show students an example of Greek, Arabic, or Chinese writing.

### **Purpose for Listening**

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Tell students to listen carefully to find out what Mesopotamian writing looked like and how people used it, as well as what else King Hammurabi did for Mesopotamia.



## Writing in Mesopotamia

### ← Show image 2A-1: Warad pointing to cuneiform

- 1 (Point to the ball in the picture.)
- 2 During the time that Iddin lived, people wrote on tablets, because paper did not exist; there was no paper.

The day after Iddin and his father, Warad, had their conversation about King Hammurabi, Iddin and his older brother, Amur (AH-moor), were out kicking a leather ball.<sup>1</sup> When the boys went inside to cool off, they found their father Warad sitting at a wide table in the sunny, central courtyard around which the house was built. On the table lay several **tablets**, smooth rectangles made of clay.<sup>2</sup>



### ← Show image 2A-2: Cuneiform

- 3 Symbols are shapes used to stand for something else. The letters of our alphabet are symbols that stand for words. (Explain to students that this is an image of a clay tablet from Mesopotamia and that the symbols they see stood for words or numbers.)

Wedge-shaped **symbols** were pressed into the clay. This sort of writing is called “**cuneiform**” (kyoo-NEE-i-form).<sup>3</sup>

“What are you reading, father?” Amur asked.



### ← Show image 2A-3: Warad pointing to cuneiform

- 4 Records are pieces of information written down to help you remember something. (Have students say the word *record*.) For example, you could keep a record or list of your friends' birthdays so you wouldn't forget. Warad, Iddin's father, kept a record of how much cloth he sold from year to year so he wouldn't forget.

Warad looked up and smiled. “This first tablet shows how much cloth we have sold this month in our store. The other shows how much we sold during the same time last year. I am comparing the numbers, deciding how much cloth I will need to buy from the weaver for the store next week. These sorts of **records** help me remember how much we sold last year. Otherwise I would probably forget.”<sup>4</sup>



### ← Show image 2A-4: Iddin pointing to cuneiform

Iddin sat down on a wooden bench next to the table. “Father,” he asked, “who figured out how to write in the first place? Who decided what each symbol meant?”

Before Warad could answer, Amur said, “The king did it. Isn’t that right, Father? King Hammurabi can do anything.”

Warad said gently, “Well, Amur, our king has done many wonderful things. But someone else made up writing even before the king was born. And Iddin, I’m afraid we don’t know exactly who it was that figured out how to write and what each symbol should mean.”

Iddin laughed. “Maybe they should have kept a record on clay tablets in cuneiform!”

Warad laughed, too. “Well, whoever it was did us all a great favor. If we couldn’t write, it would be harder to remember information for long periods of time . . .”

Iddin interrupted, “Like how much cloth you sold last year?”

Warad smiled, “Like how much cloth I sold last year.”



← Show image 2A-5: Scribes

5 That’s a really long time!

6 Scribes are people whose job it is to write things down.

“People around here, between the Tigris (TY-gris) and the Euphrates (YOU-FRAY-teez) Rivers, have known about writing for nearly *fifteen hundred years*.<sup>5</sup> That’s important. In fact, King Hammurabi may not have invented writing, but he had a great idea about how to use it. Hammurabi was so powerful that he made up a set of rules, or laws, for people to live by, so that they would know how to behave in different situations. Then he had his **scribes** write them down.<sup>6</sup> Actually, your uncle, my brother, is one of the scribes who helped the king write down the laws of our country. This set of laws is called the Code of Hammurabi. There are 282 laws in all.”

“That’s a lot of laws!” exclaimed Iddin. “That must have taken Uncle and the other scribes a long time to write.” He hesitated. “How did Uncle get to be a scribe anyway?”

“Our father, your grandfather, was a scribe, and that is why all our family members can read and write. Your grandfather taught your uncle, and he taught me. We are lucky that we know how to

read and write. And if your uncle and the others had not written down all the laws of King Hammurabi . . .”

“. . . who could remember all 282 of them?” Iddin finished.



← **Show image 2A-6: The family thinking about writing**

7 Do you think you could remember 282 laws or rules? Writing down all 282 laws helped people remember them, which also helped them to better live by the laws. If people weren't sure whether they should do something or not, they could look at the clay tablets with the laws and see what the laws said. (You may wish to connect this with any written class rules you might have.)

“Exactly,” said Warad. “Amur, what do you think would happen if we couldn't remember the laws?”<sup>7</sup>

The older boy said, “If we couldn't remember the laws, people wouldn't follow the same rules. Someone visiting another town might break that town's rules without even knowing it.”

Warad said, “And Iddin, what if I gave you one set of rules, and I gave Amur a different set of rules?”

“That wouldn't be fair,” said Iddin, “unless I liked my rules better than his.”

They all laughed. Then Amur said, “I like writing for another reason, too. After Uncle visited us, I wrote down that story he told us about being caught in a sandstorm in the desert, and how they had to lie down and cover their heads when the strong wind blew the sand so hard all around them. I read it to Iddin last night.”

Iddin smiled. “Maybe you should write a story about us, Amur.”

His brother thought about it. Then he answered, “That is a funny idea, Iddin. Who would want to read a story about us?”<sup>8</sup> Then the boys went back outside to play some more.

8 Are we reading a story that was written about them now?

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

If students have difficulty responding to questions, reread pertinent passages of the read-aloud and/or refer to specific images. If students give one-word answers and/or fail to use read-aloud or domain vocabulary in their responses, acknowledge correct responses by expanding the students' responses using richer and more complex language. It is highly recommended that you ask students to answer in complete sentences by asking them to restate the question in their responses.

1. What was Mesopotamian writing called? (cuneiform)
2. Describe how the Mesopotamians made cuneiform writing. (Wedge-shaped symbols, or markings, were pressed into tablets, which were smooth rectangles made of clay.)
3. Why was writing important to Warad? (He used it to keep track of how much cloth he had sold.)
4. Why was writing important to Amur? (He used it to write down a story he had heard; without it, he might have forgotten the story.)
5. What was the Code of Hammurabi? (the many laws that Hammurabi, the king of Mesopotamia, had written down and which everyone was expected to follow)
6. Who wrote down the Code of Hammurabi? (scribes) [Note: Make sure that students understand that only certain people were taught to write in Mesopotamia.]
7. Why was writing important to help people obey the Code of Hammurabi? (It helped them to remember the laws. Without writing, the laws might have changed much more frequently.)
8. What would life in ancient Mesopotamia have been like without writing? (Answers may vary.)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

9. *Think Pair Share:* How was Mesopotamian writing different from ours? Are there any ways in which it was the same? (Answers may vary.)

### Word Work: Symbols

(5 minutes)

1. In the read-aloud today, we heard that the Mesopotamians wrote by pressing cuneiform *symbols* into clay.
2. Say the word *symbols* with me.
3. Symbols are things, like shapes or marks or pictures, which stand for something else.
4. Question marks are symbols that are sometimes used at the end of sentences.
5. Can you think of any other symbols that you have seen? Perhaps there are some right here in the classroom. Try to use the word *symbols* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: " \_\_\_\_\_ are symbols for \_\_\_\_\_.")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Tell students to listen to the following examples. If the sentence describes a symbol, have students say, "symbol." If it does not, have them say, "not a symbol."

1. The red traffic light tells the cars to stop. (symbol)
2. The letters I write stand for sounds. (symbol)
3. My sister Mara is very pretty. (not a symbol)
4. The weather reporter shows a picture of a sun to tell viewers that it will be a sunny day. (symbol)
5. My dog's name is Gunther. (not a symbol)



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 2B

## Writing in Mesopotamia



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Civilizations Chart

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Show students Image Card 3 (cuneiform). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about cuneiform and writing in Mesopotamia. Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the Civilizations Chart to help them remember that Mesopotamians developed a way of writing.

Show students Image Card 4 (Code of Hammurabi). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about Hammurabi and the Code of Hammurabi. Explain that the 282 laws were inscribed on a huge pillar. Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the chart to help them remember that Mesopotamians had a leader (king) and laws. Explain that a leader is very important to the development of a civilization. Remind them that we've learned that King Hammurabi was not only responsible for writing all the laws, but also oversaw the building of the canals they previously heard about.

#### Sayings and Phrases: The Golden Rule

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(5 minutes)

Remind students that Warad said that writing was important because it enabled them to write down their laws in order to remember them more easily. Tell students that there is one "law" called the Golden Rule that many different people in many times and places shared and still share today. It is not an official law in our country, but it is a famous saying that we should try to live by: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Write the saying on the board or on chart paper. Explain that you are writing down the saying, but that they are not expected to be able to read what you write because they are still learning all the

rules for decoding. Emphasize that you are writing the saying so that you don't forget, just like Warad said, and tell them that you will read the words to them.

Repeat the saying and explain that "unto" means "to." Ask students what they think it means to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." (Treat other people with the same kindness, respect, and consideration with which you would like to have them treat you.)

Discuss how students might apply the Golden Rule in the following situations:

1. Your friend falls down and scrapes her knee on the playground.
2. The person sitting next to you answers a question incorrectly in class.
3. Your little brother or sister is annoying you.
4. You notice that a new student has no one to play with.

Ask the students to think of a time that they have followed the saying, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Tell them that you would like for them to draw a picture of it. Then, they should each write a sentence about their pictures. Some students may need to dictate their sentences to an adult, while others may write a word or two or a complete sentence. Have students share their drawings and writing with a partner or the class.

# 3

## The Religion of Babylon



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Asia
- Describe the significance of gods/goddesses, ziggurats, temples, and priests in Mesopotamia

#### Language Arts Objectives

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)

- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

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**gods/goddesses, n.** Powerful unseen rulers, both male and female, that people living in ancient times believed controlled what happened in the world

*Example:* The people thanked the gods and goddesses for providing good weather.

*Variation(s):* god, goddess

**priests, n.** Religious leaders

*Example:* The priests left food for the gods, hoping they would protect the soldiers in battle.

*Variation(s):* priest

**religion, n.** The belief in and worship of a superhuman, controlling power, such as a personal God or gods

*Example:* Some holidays, such as Christmas and Easter, are connected to a religion.

*Variation(s):* religions

**temples, n.** Buildings created for worship and practicing religious beliefs

*Example:* Ancient temples were often beautiful buildings, crowned in gold.

*Variation(s):* temple

**ziggurat, n.** A tall pyramid-shaped structure with a temple at the top

*Example:* The priest cared for the sun god’s statue at the top of the ziggurat.

*Variation(s):* ziggurats

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>	Image Cards 1–4	
	<b>Essential Background Information or Terms</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>The Religion of Babylon</b>		15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Religion</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Card 5	20
	<b>Interactive Illustrations</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	

# 3A

## The Religion of Babylon



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### Where Are We?

---

Each day, have a different student locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Asia. Remind students that this entire region of the world is now called the Middle East and that the modern-day country of Iraq is located there.

#### What Have We Already Learned?

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Divide the class into four groups. Give each group one of the image cards from the chart: Image Card 1 (farming), Image Card 2 (Babylon), Image Card 3 (cuneiform), and Image Card 4 (Code of Hammurabi). Tell the students that you will give them a few minutes in their groups to talk about the image card and what they have learned about the Mesopotamian civilization. Then, the class will come back together and each group will have a few minutes to share with the class.



← **Show image 2A-6: The family thinking about writing**

Remind students that in the previous lesson, they heard a story about a father, Warad, and his sons, Iddin and Amur, in Mesopotamia. Tell students that today they will hear more about Warad and his son Amur.

Have a student point out Amur in the picture and have another student point out Warad in the picture. If students have trouble, point out the characters for them and have them repeat their names after you.

## Essential Background Information or Terms

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Tell students that they are going to learn about something else that was important to the people of Mesopotamia: religion. Explain that religion is a system of beliefs, often used to explain the world and the way people should live in it.



### ← Show image 3A-1: Mesopotamian looking at desert sky

Say:

*A long, long time ago, before people knew much about science to explain how the world works, they wondered about nearly everything, just as we do today. But they didn't have many answers yet.*

*They might say, "The wind is blowing from the east. Yesterday it was blowing from the west. Why doesn't the wind always blow from the same direction?"*

*They might look up at the night sky and ask, "Why don't those stars fall down and hit us on the head?"*

*They might wonder, "Why is the ocean over there and the land over here? How come everything isn't dry land, or all ocean?" They just didn't know.*

*This was not because people were not smart. There were plenty of smart people asking questions, but sometimes it took a long time to get the right answers. Someone would learn one part of the answer, and someone else would add something to it. This would go on and on, until at last someone figured out the answer. Learning a bit at a time like this might take hundreds, or even thousands, of years.*

*And guess what: It is still going on! We are still learning new things based on what people before us figured out. That is one reason it's so important to be able to read and write: so we can learn what other people have learned, and tell other people what we discover.*



← **Show image 3A-2: Gods and goddesses of Mesopotamia**

*Way back in time, one explanation people came up with was that the world was planned and created by powerful beings, male and female, called gods and goddesses. Gods were male, and goddesses were female. They believed that each god and goddess had power over a part of the universe. These made-up stories helped the people feel less confused about their world. At least they had a way to explain things, even if it was different from what we know today.*

Explain to students that the people of Mesopotamia had a polytheistic religion. Tell students that *poly* means *many*, so a polytheistic religion is one where people believe in many gods and/or goddesses. Have students say the word *polytheistic* with you. Be sure to stress the prefix *poly* when you say it.

### **Purpose for Listening**

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Explain to students that the people of Mesopotamia believed in many gods and goddesses that ruled together. Explain that gods are male, and goddesses are female. Tell them to listen to find out who the gods and goddesses were and how they were important to the people.



## The Religion of Babylon

### ← Show image 3A-3: Palace and temple

- 1 (Point to the palace in the foreground.)
- 2 (Point to the temple at the top of the tall pyramid in the background.)
- 3 Temples were built to honor the gods and goddesses; priests were leaders who lived in the temples. (Remind students that gods were male, and goddesses were female.)
- 4 Religion is a set of beliefs that helps people make sense of their world and how to live in it.
- 5 (Remind students that the Mesopotamians were polytheistic, meaning they believed in many gods.)
- 6 The Mesopotamians had different temples to honor the different gods and goddesses they believed in.

One day, Warad and his older son, Amur, were walking in the vast city of Babylon. Amur said, “I guess Babylon is the greatest city in all the world, Father. Just look at the palace of King Hammurabi! <sup>1</sup> I don’t suppose any other king has a palace as grand as this one. And although the city is busy and noisy and dirty, our **temples**, <sup>2</sup> where the **priests** feed, clothe, and pray to the **gods and goddesses** for us, are calm and beautiful!” <sup>3</sup>

“Yes, my son,” replied Warad, “the temples are very beautiful. And the priests in charge of our **religion** make sure the temples stay that way. <sup>4</sup> After all, we want our gods and goddesses to be happy. <sup>5</sup> Why, if the Sun god grew angry with us, he might not come up in the sky tomorrow.”

“Well that certainly would not be good,” Amur said. “Then we could not grow food, or see each other clearly.”

“And thank goodness for Marduk, the god of our city.” Warad said. “He protects us and makes sure we live well. In return, we must be sure to praise him and give him thanks for all he does for us. Let us go and visit the temple of Marduk.” <sup>6</sup>



### ← Show image 3A-4: Amur and Warad looking at ziggurat <sup>7</sup>

- 7 (Point to the ziggurat in the picture. Have students repeat the word *ziggurat* and ask them to describe the ziggurat. Make sure students understand that the ziggurat is the entire tall pyramid-shaped structure and that the temple is the part at the top.)

Amur happily agreed to go to the temple of Marduk, for it was one of his favorite parts of the city. Even from a distance, they could see the lofty **ziggurat**, rising up many feet into the air. Its wide steps climbed up and up to the small temple on top. Only the king and the priests of Marduk were allowed to go up there, but anyone could visit the base of the tower.

“Remember my son,” Warad said, “There are many gods and goddesses besides Marduk that we must give thanks to.”



8 (Have students describe what they see in the picture. Explain to students that this is a picture of some of the gods and goddesses of Mesopotamia.)



← **Show image 3A-5: Gods and goddesses of Mesopotamia**<sup>8</sup>

“I know Father,” Amur sighed, “We believe that each god and goddess has power over a specific part of the universe: one for the sky, one for the water, and one for all the plants growing out of the ground. I am just glad that Marduk is the god of our city and that we have this grand temple for him.”

← **Show image 3A-6: Amur and Warad looking at ziggurat**

After admiring the temple for quite a while, Warad and Amur noticed that the light in the sky was fading. Warad said, “The sun god has done his work for the day and is ready to rest. It is time for us to rest as well.”

Then, turning away from the temple of Marduk, Warad and Amur started for home.

## ***Discussing the Read-Aloud***

**15** minutes

### **Comprehension Questions**

**(10** minutes)

If students have difficulty responding to questions, reread pertinent passages of the read-aloud and/or refer to specific images. If students give one-word answers and/or fail to use read-aloud or domain vocabulary in their responses, acknowledge correct responses by expanding the students’ responses using richer and more complex language. It is highly recommended that you ask students to answer in complete sentences by asking them to restate the question in their responses.

1. Today, you learned that people of long ago did not have scientific answers for the way things happened in their world, such as how the stars stayed in the sky. How did they explain these things? (They told stories about gods and goddesses, who they believed were in charge of different parts of the universe.)
2. Do you think that gods and goddesses were a good way to explain the workings of the universe? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)

3. Why was it important for people to write down what they learned about the world? (If they did not write down their discoveries, the people that came after them would ask the same questions over and over again, instead of using what others had learned and asking new questions.)



← **Show image 3A-3: Palace and temple**

4. In today's read-aloud, you heard Amur tell his father that he thought Babylon was the greatest city in the world. Why did he think so? (Its palace and temples were so beautiful, despite the noise and dirt of the city.)
5. [Remind the students that the Mesopotamians had a polytheistic religion.] What does the word *poly* mean? (many) So, did the Mesopotamians believe in one god or many gods and goddesses? (many gods and goddesses)
6. Who was responsible for taking care of the city's temples and making sure that the gods and goddesses were happy? (the priests)
7. Describe the different things that the Mesopotamians believed the gods were in charge of? (sun, city, water, sky, etc.)
8. At the end of the read-aloud, Amur and Warad visited the temple of Marduk. It was located on top of a much larger building with lots of steps. Who remembers what that building was called? (ziggurat)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor to discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

9. *Think Pair Share:* You have learned a little bit about Amur's life in ancient Babylon. You have learned about farming and the canals, the development of the city of Babylon along the bank of the Euphrates River, cuneiform writing, King Hammurabi and his code of laws, and finally the ziggurats with the temples on top. If you could trade places with Amur for a day, what would you like to do or see? (Answers may vary.)

## Word Work: Religion

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said, “And the priests in charge of our *religion* make sure the temples stay [beautiful].”
2. Say the word *religion* with me.
3. Religion is a set of beliefs, based on faith, which helps people explain their world and how to live in it. There are many different religions in the world.
4. My neighbors’ religion calls upon them to go to synagogue on Saturday, while my family’s religion calls upon us to go to church on Sunday.
5. Do you or anyone you know practice a religion? Try to use the word *religion* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “In my religion, we learn sayings from the Bible.”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Directions: I am going to read some sentences. If the sentence describes something about the religion practiced by the people of Mesopotamia, say, “That’s part of their religion.” If it does not, say, “That’s not part of their religion.”

1. The god of the sun brought the people daylight. (That’s part of their religion.)
2. Only kings and priests were allowed to go into the ziggurat temples. (That’s part of their religion.)
3. Anyone could become a god or goddess. (That’s not part of their religion.)
4. The gods and goddesses gave presents to the children at Christmas. (That’s not part of their religion.)
5. Priests fed, clothed, and prayed to the gods. (That’s part of their religion.)



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 3B

## The Religion of Babylon



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Civilizations Chart

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Show students Image Card 5 (ziggurat). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about ziggurats and religion in Mesopotamia. Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the Civilizations Chart to help them remember that the Mesopotamians had a polytheistic religion.

#### Interactive Illustrations

---

Explain to students that they will all get to be authors and illustrators in the next activity. Give every student a sheet of paper folded in half. On one half of the paper, have each student write a sentence about the read-aloud they just heard. Pair students with a partner and ask them to read their sentences aloud and then trade papers. Using the second section on their partner's paper, have each student draw a picture that goes with his or her partner's sentence. Then have the students hand the papers back to the original authors. Encourage the authors to add descriptive words to his or her original sentence using carets (a wedge-shaped mark used to show that a word has been inserted), and hand the papers back to the illustrators to draw more details into the illustration. Allow several students to share and discuss how their partners' illustrations differed from the pictures they had imagined in their heads when they wrote their sentences. As the students discuss the illustrations, remember to repeat and expand upon each response using richer and more complex language, including, if possible, any read-aloud vocabulary.

# 4

## *The Hanging Gardens of Babylon*



### **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Core Content Objectives**

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Students will:

- Locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Asia
- Describe the city of Babylon and the Hanging Gardens
- Recall the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers and canals to support farming and the development of the city of Babylon
- Recall the significance of gods/goddesses in Mesopotamia
- Describe the significance of leaders to the development of civilization
- Identify Mesopotamia as the “Cradle of Civilization”
- Understand that a civilization evolves and changes over time

#### **Language Arts Objectives**

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)

- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- With assistance, create and interpret timelines and lifelines related to read-alouds (L.1.23)
- Draw pictures, dictate, or write simple sentences to represent details or information from a read-aloud (L.1.24)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

## Core Vocabulary

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**caravan, n.** A traveling group

*Example:* The caravan moved together from city to city, selling their goods.

*Variation(s):* caravans

**chariots, n.** Two-wheeled or four-wheeled horse-drawn vehicles used in ancient times

*Example:* The soldiers stood tall as they drove their chariots into battle.

*Variation(s):* chariot

**merchant, n.** Someone who buys and sells goods

*Example:* Mother bought apples from the fruit merchant.

*Variation(s):* merchants

**platforms, n.** Flat, raised structures used to keep things off the ground

*Example:* The musicians stood on platforms so the crowd could see them better.

*Variation(s):* platform

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>Essential Background Information or Terms</b>		
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>The Hanging Gardens of Babylon</b>		15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Caravan</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Timeline</b>	Image Cards 4 and 6 chart paper, chalkboard, or whiteboard index cards drawing paper, drawing tools	20
	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Cards 1–6 Instructional Master 4B-1 drawing tools	

# 4A

## The Hanging Gardens of Babylon



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### Where Are We?

---

Each day, have a different student locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe and identify it as a part of Asia. Remind students that this entire region of the world is now called the Middle East and that the modern-day country of Iraq is located there.

#### Essential Background Information or Terms

---

Use the Civilizations Chart and Image Cards 1–5 to review what has been learned about Mesopotamia.

Explain that Mesopotamia is considered a civilization because the people living there farmed, built cities, developed a form of writing, had leaders, and practiced a religion. Show students the image card that represents each part of civilization as you talk about it. Groups of people around the world, in ancient times and modern times, have done these five things. There have been, and still are, many civilizations.

Explain to the students that the read-aloud they will hear today says that Mesopotamia is sometimes called the “cradle of civilization.” Ask them to guess what that term might mean. Talk about the word *cradle*—who uses a cradle (baby); at what stage of life (beginning); etc. Explain that Mesopotamia was one of the first known civilizations. It had all the important components listed on the Civilizations Chart, things that define a civilization.

#### What Have We Already Learned?

---

Tell students that today’s read-aloud is about the city of Babylon. Ask students what they remember about Babylon (on the banks of the Euphrates, home of King Hammurabi, home of Warad and his family).



← **Show image 2A-4: Iddin pointing to cuneiform**

Tell students that today's read-aloud takes place more than a thousand years after Warad, Iddin, and Amur lived in Babylon back when Hammurabi was the king.

Explain to students that a new king ruled Babylon at this time.

Say: Do you remember how in a previous lesson I asked you what you would like to do or see if you could trade places with Amur for a day? Well this time, how would you like to go back in time to Babylon a thousand years after Warad, Iddin, and Amur, right now during our read-aloud? Let's go!

### **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell students to listen to find out what changes have occurred in Babylon over the years and to find out more about the new king that ruled Babylon at that time.



## The Hanging Gardens of Babylon

### ← Show image 4A-1: City of Babylon on banks of Euphrates

You may remember that Babylon stood on the banks of the Euphrates (you-FRAY-teez) River and was the home of King Hammurabi (hah-moo-RAH-bee), who wrote the laws called “The Code of Hammurabi.”



### ← Show image 4A-2: Nebuchadnezzar sitting on throne

Well, many years after Hammurabi ruled Babylon, there was another famous king in Babylon with another long name. This king’s name was Nebuchadnezzar (NEB-oo-cud-NEZ-ur). That could be a hard name to say, but everyone in Babylon learned it.<sup>1</sup>

- 1 What is the name of the king of Babylon?



### ← Show image 4A-3: Caravan of travelers on donkeys<sup>2</sup>

Here we find a whole group of travelers that make up a **caravan**<sup>3</sup> headed for Babylon. Let’s pretend that you and I are traveling to Babylon with this caravan.<sup>4</sup> We have been traveling for weeks to get there so that we can sell fine cotton cloth, which for now is all rolled up on the backs of our donkeys. Most of us are hoping to sell things in Babylon and then buy new things to trade back home.<sup>5</sup> There are guides and guards to lead us through the desert and to protect us from bandits<sup>6</sup> on the way.<sup>7</sup> Some of the travelers actually come from Babylon, including a **merchant** named Ili (i-lee), with whom we have become friends.<sup>8</sup> Ili has been away from home for months, and he is glad to be getting home to Babylon. As we approach the high walls of the city, you tell him, “I have seen lots of cities with walls, but I have never seen a wall as big as this one.”

- 2 (Have students describe what they see in the picture.)
- 3 or traveling group
- 4 The narrator of the story is inviting you to come along using your imagination. (Point to the donkey with no one on it.) Try to imagine what you see as you ride along on this donkey with the caravan or traveling group.
- 5 So you want to sell what you brought to buy new things in Babylon so you can trade them when you go back home. Who remembers what *trade* means?
- 6 or thieves
- 7 How do you feel as you travel knowing there are bandits?
- 8 So you and the storyteller have just met a merchant, someone who buys and sells goods. Are you a merchant too? Do you buy and sell goods?

- 9 Why do you think there might be a wall around Babylon?
- 10 Chariots are two-wheeled, or four-wheeled, horse-drawn vehicles often used by soldiers in battle. The Mesopotamians invented wheels.
- 11 What do you think you are going to see?

“Yes,” Ili tells us proudly, “it is about sixteen thousand cubits long, so that it can go all around Babylon.”<sup>9</sup> The wall is so strong and wide that soldiers have room to turn their **chariots** and horses around on top!<sup>10</sup> But, wait a few minutes, and you will see one of the loveliest sights along that wall.”<sup>11</sup>



← **Show image 4A-4: Ishtar Gate with soldiers as guards**

A few minutes later, up ahead we glimpse a tall, wide gate in the wall. Blue-glazed bricks cover the gate, glittering in the bright sunlight. “That is the famous Ishtar (ISH-tar) Gate,” Ili tells us. “Our king had it built, then named it for one of Babylon’s goddesses.”<sup>12</sup>

- 12 Remember that the Mesopotamians were polytheistic. Who remembers what that means?



← **Show image 4A-5: Ili and two others walking along streets**

Half an hour later, soldiers at the Ishtar Gate allow our group to enter, and we find ourselves walking on streets made of stone. This feels strange after the weeks we have spent walking on the shifting sands of the desert.<sup>13</sup> Large statues stand every so often along the sides of the street. “Look!” I exclaim. “The statues are made of gold!”<sup>14</sup>

- 13 Remember, Mesopotamia was mostly desert, but Babylon was built along the banks of what river? Who remembers what digging canals allowed the Mesopotamians to do?

- 14 (Point to the statues in the picture.)

- 15 What do you think is the most amazing sight in all of Babylon?

As we continue on our way, we pass marvelous palaces and busy shops filled with things to buy. Tomorrow we will take our cloth to one of the shop owners, who has promised to buy it.

Our friend Ili has invited us to dinner at his home tonight. “You are lucky,” he says. “The windows of the inn where you will be staying look out upon the most amazing sight in all of Babylon.”<sup>15</sup>

“Do you mean the famous gardens?” I ask.



← **Show image 4A-6: Nebuchadnezzar and his queen**

“Yes,” Ili replies. Then, looking around carefully to be sure that no one else can hear, he says quietly, “King Nebuchadnezzar can be very cruel if he does not like you. But he also has a good side for those he likes or loves; and the person he loves most of all is

his queen. The queen came from a land of hills and mountains, with green meadows rich with tall trees and colorful flowers. Some say that after she moved here, the queen missed her home, so our king decided to build her a mountain covered with green plants—the famous Hanging Gardens—so the queen would not be so homesick. But now I must leave you, for this is my street. Remember, you are dining with us this evening. Come hungry, for there will be plenty to eat.” And smiling again, Ili leaves us to continue toward our inn.<sup>16</sup>

16 So, when will you see Ili again?  
Now it's just you and our storyteller again.

17 What will you see?



← **Show image 4A-7: Hanging Gardens of Babylon**<sup>18</sup>

18 When something hangs, it dangles down, like the way long earrings hang from someone's ears. By looking at the picture, can you tell why these gardens were called "hanging gardens"?

19 The platforms are a little like bleachers at a ball game.

20 What is needed to help plants grow that is not usually found in a desert?

We have gone only one block more when you glance over the rooftops ahead and stop in your tracks.<sup>17</sup>

“Look!” you exclaim, your eyes opening wide in wonder. When I look up, I have the same reaction. There, rising above the roofs of the city, we see the famous man-made hill. Many stories high, it is a series of level **platforms** built one on top of another, and connected by ramps and stairways.<sup>19</sup> Narrowing in size the higher you look, the platforms are almost completely covered with trees, vines, and blooming flowers. The flowers are in such abundance that they hang over the sides and give the place its name. We stand amazed at this sight. How on earth can King Nebuchadnezzar grow all these plants in the middle of hot, dry Babylon?<sup>20</sup>



← **Show image 4A-8: Watering of the Hanging Gardens**

That night when we are at dinner, Ili explains. “The level parts of the garden are made of mud bricks covered in lead so that water does not leak through. Workers had to carry up the tons of dirt to cover those parts, and then they set all the plants in place. The water for the plants is lifted up in buckets attached to a long chain. This chain runs around the edges of two great wheels, one at the bottom of the building and one at the top. Workers turn these wheels with cranks, and the buckets dip into a pond of water at the bottom that is filled from the river nearby. As the wheels keep

21 What do you think about this system used to water the hanging gardens?

turning, the buckets become full, and are lifted up to the top of the chain, where they empty their contents into another pond. From this pond, channels direct the water down to the different garden levels and out among the plants.”<sup>21</sup>

I tell Ili and his family, “I am amazed at how clever all this is, and how rich King Nebuchadnezzar must be!” But you ask, “And does his queen like it?”

Ili just smiles at you and says, “Wouldn’t you?”

## **Discussing the Read-Aloud**

**15** minutes

### **Comprehension Questions**

**(10** minutes)

If students have difficulty responding to questions, reread pertinent passages of the read-aloud and/or refer to specific images. If students give one-word answers and/or fail to use read-aloud or domain vocabulary in their responses, acknowledge correct responses by expanding the students’ responses using richer and more complex language. It is highly recommended that you ask students to answer in complete sentences by asking them to restate the question in their responses.

1. Where did today’s read-aloud take place? (Babylon)
2. What was the name of the king who ruled Babylon at the time of today’s read-aloud? (Nebuchadnezzar)
3. How was the entrance to the city of Babylon different from the entrance to cities today? (Babylon was surrounded by a high wall, and people entered through a gate.)
4. When the travelers first entered the city, why did the streets feel funny to them? (The streets were made of stone, and they had been walking for weeks through the sandy desert.)
5. Why did Ili call the Hanging Gardens “the most amazing sight in all of Babylon”? (elaborate engineering—built on platforms, plants not native to desert area, required elaborate system of watering)

6. According to Ili, why did King Nebuchadnezzar have the Hanging Gardens built? (He built them for his wife, the queen, who missed the green hills and beautiful flowers in her native land.)
7. The narrator/storyteller says he is impressed by how rich King Nebuchadnezzar must be. Name some examples from the story that would make him think that Nebuchadnezzar was a rich king. (the glittering bricks of Ishtar Gate, large gold statues, palaces, the elaborate hanging gardens)
8. *What? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *what*. For example, you could ask, “What did you learn about in today’s read-aloud?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your “what” question. Listen to your neighbor’s response. Then your neighbor will ask a new “what” question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

### **Word Work: Caravan**

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said that you find, “. . . a whole group of travelers that make up a *caravan* headed for Babylon.”
2. Say the word *caravan* with me.
3. A caravan is a large group of people traveling together.
4. We moved things to our new house in a caravan: two trucks and two cars traveling together across town.
5. Have you ever traveled anywhere in a caravan: lots of people traveling together to the same place? Try to use the word *caravan* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “When we went on vacation, our car was the last in a caravan behind my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Directions: I am going to name some travelers that are traveling in a caravan and some that are not. If they are traveling in a caravan, say, “That’s a caravan.” If not, say, “That’s not a caravan.”

1. I rode my bike to the playground. (That’s not a caravan.)
2. The circus came to town, carrying their animals with them in many different trucks and trailers. (That’s a caravan.)
3. The army tanks rolled over the desert in a straight line, one after the other. (That’s a caravan.)
4. Mom and Dad went to the grocery store. (That’s not a caravan.)
5. Floats traveled down Main Street, one after the other, during the Thanksgiving Day Parade. (That’s a caravan.)



### **Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 4B

## The Hanging Gardens of Babylon



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Timeline

On the board or on a long piece of paper make a timeline of Mesopotamia for students. Draw a long horizontal line for the timeline. On one end of the timeline write “Ancient Times” below the line and place Image Card 4 (Code of Hammurabi) above Ancient Times. Review with students King Hammurabi and the Code of Hammurabi. On the other end of the timeline, write “Modern Times” below the line.

Image Card 4  
(Code of Hammurabi)

Ancient Times

Modern Times

Explain to students that this is a timeline. A timeline is a line that represents a certain amount of time. Tell students that this timeline represents all the time that has passed from the time of King Hammurabi until today. Explain that it is very easy to see on the timeline that King Hammurabi lived many, many years ago. Explain to students that this part of the timeline represents the time of Warad, Iddin and Amur, and King Hammurabi.

Explain to the students that today, what we call “Modern Times,” is represented at the opposite end of the timeline from Hammurabi.

Give the students index cards and direct each student to draw a picture, or write a word or phrase, describing an important event

they remember hearing about that happened in Hammurabi's time. Have students share their cards, and then place them around Hammurabi on the timeline.

Finally, have students draw a picture, or write a word or phrase, about themselves on new index cards. Have students share their cards, and then place them above Modern Times on the timeline.

Show students Image Card 6 (Nebuchadnezzar). Explain to students that this is a picture of King Nebuchadnezzar—the king of Babylon whom Ili talked about in today's read-aloud. Make a vertical line a short distance to the right of the Code of Hammurabi in Ancient Times, and attach Image Card 6. Explain to students that the read-aloud they heard today took place in ancient times, but it was a thousand years after Hammurabi.

Be sure to emphasize to students that the way in which the Mesopotamian civilization developed was largely due to its leaders, like King Hammurabi and King Nebuchadnezzar and the decisions they had made. Ask students what they think may have happened if King Hammurabi had not developed the Code of Hammurabi, or if King Nebuchadnezzar had not built the hanging gardens? Do they think Mesopotamia would have developed differently?

### **Civilizations Chart (Instructional Master 4B-1)**

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Review with students the term *cradle of civilization*. Using Image Cards 1–6 as prompts, have the students name the five components of a civilization: farming, leaders and laws, writing, religion, and cities.

Give each student a copy of Instructional Master 4B-1. Tell them that they are going to create their own Civilizations Chart to share with their families. Have students draw pictures to show what they have learned about the various components of the civilization of Mesopotamia. Students, who are ready, may also write words or sentences. Save students' charts so that they can add ancient Egypt information to it at a later time.

# PP1

## *Pausing Point 1*



### **Note to Teacher**

This is the end of the read-alouds about Mesopotamia. You may choose to pause here and spend one to two days reviewing, reinforcing, or extending the material taught thus far.

If you do pause, you may have students do any combination of the activities listed below. The activities may be done in any order. You may wish to do one activity on successive days. You may also choose to do an activity with the whole class or with a small group of students who would benefit from the particular activity.

### **Core Content Objectives Up to This Pausing Point**

Students will:

- Locate the area known as Mesopotamia on a world map or globe and identify it as a part of Asia
- Explain the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers and canals to support farming
- Describe the city of Babylon and the Hanging Gardens
- Identify cuneiform as the way of writing in Mesopotamia
- Explain why writing is important to a civilization
- Describe the Code of Hammurabi
- Explain why rules and laws are important to the development of a civilization
- Describe the significance of gods/goddesses, ziggurats, temples, and priests in Mesopotamia
- Describe the significance of leaders to the development of civilization
- Identify Mesopotamia as the “Cradle of Civilization”
- Understand that a civilization evolves and changes over time

## Activities

### Where Are We?

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**Materials: World map or globe**

Help students locate and identify the area known as the Middle East. Ask them to identify the continent on which the Middle East is found. (Asia) Point to the modern day country of Iraq and explain that this is one of the countries in the Middle East. Explain that in ancient times, this part of the Middle East was called Mesopotamia. Have students share connections between these places and the read-alouds.

### Image Review

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Show the images from any read-aloud again and have students retell the read-aloud using the images.

### Image Card Review

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**Materials: Image Cards 1–6**

In your hand, hold Image Cards 1–6 fanned out like a deck of cards. Ask a student to choose a card but to not show it to anyone else in the class. The student must then perform an action or give a clue about the picture s/he is holding. The rest of the class will guess what is being described. Proceed to another card when the correct answer has been given.

### Domain-Related Trade Book or Student Choice

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**Materials: Trade book**

Read an additional trade book to review a particular event; refer to the books listed in the domain introduction. You may also choose to have the students select a read-aloud to be heard again.

### You Were There: Mesopotamia

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Have students pretend that they lived in ancient times in Mesopotamia. Ask students to describe what they would see and hear if they went to Babylon. Consider also extending this activity by adding group or independent writing opportunities associated with the “You Were There” concept. For example, ask students to

pretend they are scribes recording the story of Nebuchadnezzar and his queen and write the story down as a group.

## Key Vocabulary Brainstorming

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### Materials: Chart paper

Give the students a key domain concept or vocabulary word, such as *cradle of civilization*. Have them brainstorm everything that comes to mind when they hear the word, such as *baby, beginning of life, Mesopotamia, two rivers, first civilization*, etc. Record their responses on a piece of chart paper for reference.

## Class Book: Mesopotamia

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### Materials: Drawing paper, drawing tools

Tell the class or a group of students that they are going to make a class book to help them remember what they have learned thus far in this domain. Have the students brainstorm important information about Mesopotamia and what the components of Mesopotamian civilization were. Have each student choose one idea to draw a picture of and then have him or her write a caption for the picture. Bind the pages to make a book to put in the class library for students to read again and again. You may choose to add more pages upon completion of the entire domain before binding the book.

## Trading Activity

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### Materials: Drawing tools

Tell students that they are going to pretend that they are in a market in Mesopotamia and they have come to trade with others there. Hand out crayons or markers to each student. Divide the class: Have one part of the class pretend to be the vendors at the market and remain seated, while the other students pretend to be the market attendees and roam around the classroom trading crayons or other drawing tools with the vendors. Have the students say, "Would you trade your crayon for this crayon?" Be sure that students use the word *trade* in their conversations with other students.

## Venn Diagram

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### Materials: Chart paper, drawing tools

In order to compare desert land to fertile land, draw two large overlapping circles to make a Venn diagram on the board or a piece of chart paper, and label them “Desert” and “Fertile.”



← **Show image 1A-1: The desert**

Have students describe what they see in the picture. Record their observations on the diagram.



← **Show image 1A-8: Close-up of canals**

Have students describe what they see in the picture. Record their observations on the diagram.

Have students describe the similarities and differences between the desert land and the fertile land. Remind students that the Euphrates River and the Tigris River made the land in Mesopotamia fertile. Farther away from the rivers there was desert land.

## Then and Now

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### Materials: Chart paper, chalkboard, or whiteboard

In order to compare life in ancient Mesopotamia to life today, draw two large overlapping circles to make a Venn diagram on the board or a piece of chart paper, and label them “Then” and “Now.” Tell students they will be talking in pairs. Explain that each student will be given one minute to list as many ways as they can how life was different back then from the way life is today. Have each student turn to a neighbor and begin. When one minute is up, have the second student take a turn for one minute. Then encourage students to share their ideas and take dictation. First, ask students to identify the area of the Venn diagram where their ideas should be recorded. Then tell the students they will now try to list as many ways that life back then was the same as it is today. Give students one minute for each turn, and then take dictation down, asking them first to identify the area of the Venn diagram on which similarities go (i.e., the overlapping part).

# 5

## People of the Nile



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Explain the importance of the Nile River and how its floods were important for farming

#### Language Arts Objectives

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Make predictions (orally or in writing) prior to and during a read-aloud, based on the title, pictures, and/or text heard thus far, and then compare the actual outcomes to predictions (L.1.12)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)

- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Demonstrate understanding (orally or in writing) of literary language, e.g., author, illustrator, characters, setting, plot, dialogue, and personification, by using this language in retelling stories or creating their own stories (L.1.32)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

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**advantage, n.** A skill or thing that increases one’s chances of success

*Example:* The children’s small size gave them an advantage when playing hide and seek.

*Variation(s):* advantages

**Egyptians, n.** People from or living in Egypt

*Example:* Cleopatra and King Tut were Egyptians.

*Variation(s):* Egyptian

**enriched, v.** Added to or made richer

*Example:* Her mother bought milk that was enriched with vitamin D.

*Variation(s):* enrich, enriches, enriching

**flooding, n.** Water covering an area that is usually dry

*Example:* Sometimes when it rains very hard, for a very long time, flooding happens.

*Variation(s):* none

<b><i>At a Glance</i></b>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<b><i>Introducing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b><i>Presenting the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>People of the Nile</b>		15
<b><i>Discussing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Flooding</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b><i>Extensions</i></b>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Card 7	20
	<b>Setting</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	
<b><i>Take-Home Material</i></b>	<b>Parent Letter</b>	Instructional Master 5B-1	

# 5A

## People of the Nile



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### Where Are We?

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Ask the students to locate the continent of Africa on a world map or globe. Point to Egypt and explain that Egypt is a country in the northeast corner of Africa.



← **Show image 5A-1: The desert**

Review with students what a desert is. Explain that much of Egypt, like Mesopotamia, is a desert. The desert in Egypt is called the Sahara Desert. Have students repeat *Sahara Desert* after you.

Ask students what two rivers were very important to the Mesopotamians and why those rivers were so important. Tell students that today they will learn about life in ancient Egypt and an important river called the Nile River. The Nile is one of the longest rivers in the world and it flows through Egypt. Show students the Nile River on a map or globe.

Ask students if they have heard of Egypt, the Nile River, or the Sahara Desert. Give the students the opportunity to share any prior knowledge that they have about the region.

#### Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud

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Tell the students that at about the same time that people were living in Mesopotamia, people were also living in Egypt. Tell the students that the next several read-alouds will be about life in ancient Egypt several thousands of years ago. Ask students if they think life in ancient Egypt was the same as or different from life in Mesopotamia.

## **Purpose for Listening**

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Tell the students to listen carefully to the read-aloud to learn about life in ancient Egypt, and to find out whether or not their predictions were correct about ancient Egypt being the same as or different from Mesopotamia. Tell them to also listen to learn about the Nile River and how the ancient Egyptians used it.



## People of the Nile

### ← Show image 5A-2: Map of Nile, Tigris, and Euphrates Rivers

1 (Point to Mesopotamia and Egypt on the map. Explain that Egyptians are people who live in Egypt.)

2 What is the longest river in the world?

3 It was very helpful for the Egyptians to have the Nile.

4 (Point to the area surrounding Egypt on the map.)

5 (Explain to students that crops need vitamins and minerals to grow.)

6 (Point to Egypt on the map.)

While people were creating cities and nations in Mesopotamia, another group of people, the **Egyptians**, were building another great civilization on the banks of another river, the Nile.<sup>1</sup>

The Nile River is the longest—and one of the mightiest—rivers on the earth.<sup>2</sup> After it flows all the way through Egypt, it empties into the sea. The Nile has always given the people of Egypt a special **advantage**.<sup>3</sup>

Most farmers outside of Egypt<sup>4</sup> had a hard time growing crops. They often had to farm the same land year after year. The problem with this was that by using the same land every year, the crops they planted would use up the natural vitamins and minerals in that land. After the vitamins and minerals were used up, the farmers could no longer grow crops on that land.<sup>5</sup>

So, the farmers would have to stop farming and give the land a few years to “rest.” By not growing crops on that land for a few years, the natural vitamins and minerals the plants needed to grow would start to build up again. Then, the farmers could farm on that land again, at least for a few more years.

Because the farmers could only grow their crops on the same land for a few years before the natural vitamins and minerals would be used up, they could not count on being able to grow enough food every single year. It was a very hard life.

But, the Egyptians<sup>6</sup> could farm the same land over and over again. Do you know why? The reason they could had to do with the Nile.



← **Show image 5A-3: Map of Africa with Egypt and the Nile highlighted**

- 7 (Point to it on the map, dragging your finger from central Africa to the mouth of the river in Egypt, as you read.)
- 8 So, the rivers carry the vitamins and minerals the plants need from mountains into Egypt every year.
- 9 Water is no longer covering land that is usually dry.

The Nile begins its long journey to the sea in the high mountains of central Africa.<sup>7</sup> Every spring, heavy rainstorms fill Africa's mountain lakes, emptying water into the Nile. Rushing down the mountainsides with enormous speed and power, the swollen river carries mud, rich with minerals and vitamins, in its current.<sup>8</sup> When the floodwaters reach the flat lands of Egypt, they spread out for miles on either side of the riverbanks. When the rains and the **flooding** stop, the river goes back to its usual size.<sup>9</sup>



← **Show image 5A-4: Crops growing along the banks of the Nile**<sup>10</sup>

- 10 (Have students describe what they see in the picture.)
- 11 (Point to the crops and the river in the picture.) The river mud added vitamins and minerals to the fields during the flooding.

Long, long ago the ancient Egyptians planted crops in the muddy fields, newly **enriched** with vitamins and minerals.<sup>11</sup> In this way, the Nile floods meant life for the Egyptians. But if the rains were light for a year or two, the floodwaters would not bring enough rich soil (with vitamins and minerals for the plants), and the people might go hungry because they would not be able to grow as much food.

The Egyptians knew their lives depended on the river. Most Egyptians lived within twelve or thirteen miles of the Nile on one side or the other, for it was there that the floodwaters refreshed the land each year.<sup>12</sup>

- 12 How is this similar to Mesopotamia?
- 13 How do you think floodwaters can be dangerous?

The floodwaters could also be very dangerous.<sup>13</sup> When the spring floods came, the Nile could destroy homes and villages if they were built too close to the river. So, many ancient Egyptian villages were built up above the level of the river, so that when the spring floods came, the river would not destroy the buildings and homes.

Some villages, though, were built on the same level as the river itself. Every year the people living there would have to leave their village when the water rose too high. They moved away to a safer place, and then would return a few weeks later, after the river had

14 If you were an ancient Egyptian, would you rather live in a village that was built above the level of the water or one that was built on the same level? Why? (Pause for responses.)



← **Show image 5A-5: Egyptian man pointing to village with canals**

returned to a lower level. The ancient Egyptians in those villages would have to repair a lot of the damage. Still they did that every single year.<sup>14</sup>

Some villages had another way of dealing with the flood waters. The people living in these villages dug canals, ditches cut into the earth that spread from the edge of the river to carry away the extra water from the spring floods.<sup>15</sup> The water flowed through the canals, past the village and into the farm fields beyond. So the village did not get damaged and the water could be transported out farther from the Nile.<sup>16</sup>

15 (Point to the canals in the picture.)

16 Who else have you learned about who dug canals? What did the Mesopotamians use the canals for?

17 What do you think the ancient Egyptians used the Nile for in addition to farming?

But the Egyptians used the Nile for other reasons, as we shall see in this story of an ancient Egyptian family.<sup>17</sup>



← **Show image 5A-6: Ipi and Meret on the banks of the Nile**

One day thousands of years ago, an Egyptian woman named Ipi (IP-pea) and her daughter Meret (MER-et) went down to the Nile to gather some soft, muddy clay so they could make clay pots. Approaching the river, they heard a voice call, “Ipi! Meret!” They looked up and smiled, for sailing out in the middle of the Nile was Rensi (REN-see), the husband of Ipi and the father of Meret. Rensi was a fisherman who sailed his narrow boat up and down the river, casting out rope nets to catch fish. Rensi did this just as the men in his family had always done before him. As Rensi’s mother had told him, “Once a fisherman, always a fisherman; and once a fisherman’s son, always a fisherman, too.”<sup>18</sup>

18 So, the ancient Egyptians used the Nile for food by fishing!

Rensi began making his way back to Meret and Ipi, and after a few minutes, he reached shore. Pulling his boat a little way onto the sand so that it would not drift back into the water, he made his way over to them.

19 Do you have any nicknames?

Meret turned to her father, who hugged her and kissed her. “Little fish,” he said gently, using one of his nicknames for Meret.<sup>19</sup>



← **Show image 5A-7: Rensi, Ipi, and Meret carrying fish to house**

The three of them took the rope fishing nets from the boat and hung them to dry on wooden racks in the sun. Then Ipi, his wife, and his daughter took the fish from the boat back to their village where they would sell them at the market.<sup>20</sup> That night, exhausted from a day at the market, they made their way back to their little house made of mud bricks at the edge of the village.

Some have called Egypt “the gift of the Nile,” because ancient Egypt may not have existed without the Nile River.<sup>21</sup>

20 The river was an easy way to transport people and goods. How is this similar to Mesopotamia?

21 What do think? Could ancient Egypt have existed without the Nile? Why or why not?

## ***Discussing the Read-Aloud***

**15** minutes

### **Comprehension Questions**

**(10** minutes)

If students have difficulty responding to questions, reread pertinent passages of the read-aloud and/or refer to specific images. If students give one-word answers and/or fail to use read-aloud or domain vocabulary in their responses, acknowledge correct responses by expanding the students’ responses using richer and more complex language. It is highly recommended that you ask students to answer in complete sentences by asking them to restate the question in their responses.

1. Were your predictions correct? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)
2. Allow students time to discuss the question posed at the end of the read-aloud. (Answers may vary.)
3. How were Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt the same? (They both were located near rivers; people lived in both places; both had canals; etc.)
4. How were they different? (They were on different continents; the rivers had different names; etc.)
5. How was the flooding of the Nile, which happened during heavy, spring rains, important for farming? (It enriched the soil with vitamins and minerals.)

6. Why did most people in ancient Egypt live near the Nile? (They needed to grow their own food, and the river made farming possible.)
7. How was the Nile important to Meret and her family? (They used the clay to make pots, they fished in the river, and they traveled on it.)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

8. *Think Pair Share:* Would you like to live near a river? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)

### **Word Work: Flooding**

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said that “When the rains and the *flooding* stop, the river goes back to its usual size.”
2. Say the word *flooding* with me.
3. *Flooding* means covering with too much water an area of land that is normally dry.
4. I heard on the news that there was flooding near the Mississippi River.
5. Have you ever seen or heard about flooding? Try to use the word *flooding* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “I saw flooding . . .”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Directions: The read-aloud explained that flooding was helpful to the ancient Egyptians because it enriched the soil. Flooding can also be harmful because too much water can damage plants, animals, and homes. I am going to read some sentences. If the sentence describes a way that flooding can be helpful, you will say, “Flooding can be helpful.” If the sentence describes a way that flooding can be harmful, you will say, “Flooding can be harmful.”

1. The flooding provided rich soil for planting crops. (Flooding can be helpful.)
2. The people living near the river had to leave their homes as the flooding came closer and closer. (Flooding can be harmful.)
3. The flooding left clay that was used to make clay pots. (Flooding can be helpful.)
4. The birds flew away because of the flooding of their habitat. (Flooding can be harmful.)
5. The flooding destroyed the corn crop. (Flooding can be harmful.)



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 5B

## People of the Nile



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Civilizations Chart

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Show students Image Card 7 (farming along the Nile). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about farming along the Nile. Ask students how this is similar to Mesopotamia. (They both farmed near the river.) Ask students how this is different from Mesopotamia. (The ancient Egyptians farmed near the Nile, while the people of Mesopotamia farmed on the banks of the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers.) Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the chart to help them remember that people in ancient Egypt farmed near the Nile.

#### Setting

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Ask the students if they remember what the setting of a story is. (where and when it takes place) Ask the students to identify and describe the setting of the story about Meret and her family. (near the Nile River, thousands of year ago)

Ask the students what other kinds of stories might be written with the same setting. (going fishing on the Nile; taking a trip down the Nile in a boat; etc.) After brainstorming ideas, tell the students that they are going to draw a picture of one of the ideas. Then, they will write about the picture that has been drawn. Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write a word or two, one complete sentence, or several sentences with a beginning, middle, and end. Give the students the opportunity to share their drawings and writing.

#### Parent Letter (Instructional Master 5B-1)

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Send home Instructional Master 5B-1.

# 6

## Writing in Ancient Egypt



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Identify hieroglyphs as the way of writing in ancient Egypt
- Explain why writing is important to the development of a civilization

#### Language Arts Objectives

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Ask questions to clarify directions, exercises, and/or classroom routines (L.1.2)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)

- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

---

**accurately, adv.** Without errors or mistakes

*Example:* She accurately answered each homework question and received a “Well Done!” sticker.

*Variation(s):* none

**hieroglyphs, n.** Pictures that represent sounds, words, or letters

*Example:* The hieroglyphs carved in the stone told a story about the flood.

*Variation(s):* hieroglyph

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>Personal Connections</b>		
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Writing in Ancient Egypt</b>		15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Accurately</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Cards 8 and 9	20
	<b>Drawing the Read-Aloud</b>	Instructional Master 6B-1 drawing paper, drawing tools chalkboard or whiteboard	

# 6A

## Writing in Ancient Egypt



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### Where Are We?

---

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### Personal Connections

---

Discuss the significance of writing with some of the following questions:

- What kinds of things do you write?
- Is it important to write things down? Why or why not?
- How would your lives be different if there was no writing?

#### What Have We Already Learned?

---



← **Show image 5A-6: Meret on the banks of the Nile**

Remind students that in the previous lesson, they learned about Meret and her family in ancient Egypt. Have a student point out Meret in the picture. Have them repeat the name *Meret* after you. Besides farming, what else was the Nile used for? (fishing; transportation) Where did Meret and her family live? (in a village near the Nile River)

#### Purpose for Listening

---

Tell the students that the next read-aloud is about writing in ancient Egypt. Remind them that they learned about cuneiform writing in the read-alouds about Mesopotamia. Tell them to listen carefully to find out whether Egyptian writing was like Mesopotamian writing.



## Writing in Ancient Egypt

### ← Show image 6A-1: Meret and her father returning

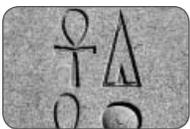
Meret once in a while accompanied her father to go fishing. Late one night, Meret and her father returned from a long day of fishing on the Nile River. They were both exhausted from being out in the hot sun all afternoon and relieved to be back on the banks of the river. Meret's mother was waiting for them along the shore. When she saw Meret, she scooped the tired girl up and gave her a huge hug.

"I will sing you your bedtime song as we walk home, my child," she told Meret. Meret nodded, wearily looking up at her mother.

When her mother finished singing the beautiful song, Meret asked curiously, "Mother, how did you learn that song?"

"I learned it from my mother, who learned it from her mother," Meret's mother replied. "I learned everything I needed to know by listening to my mother. I will teach you everything you need to know, and I hope that you will be able to listen well."

"I will," Meret answered. "But isn't there another way to pass on information?"



### ← Show image 6A-2: Hieroglyphs carved in stone<sup>1</sup>

"Well, yes," Meret's mother answered. "The kings and scribes know how to draw symbols that represent the words we say. Then, someone else can come along and read these symbols much later and understand *exactly* what was written."<sup>2</sup>

"But why would we need to write things down, when we can just pass them on by talking?" Meret inquired.

- 1 (Have the students describe what they see in the picture.)
- 2 (Explain to students that these symbols are called hieroglyphs. Have students repeat the word after you. Help them to understand that these symbols stand for spoken words, much like the letters in the alphabet can be put together to spell the words we say.)



← **Show image 6A-3: Messenger**

“Sometimes messages need to be carried by messengers over a very long distance,” Meret’s mother explained. “And in the time it took to travel great distances, the messengers sometimes forgot the messages, or got some of the words mixed up when they tried to repeat them.”

“That is not so good!” Meret exclaimed. “Then the person could get the wrong message!”

“Exactly,” Meret’s mother continued. “However, when the message is written down, there is no chance that the messenger will forget the message or get it mixed up. This is one reason why reading and writing are so important. We Egyptians decided it was important to write things down **accurately.**”

“That seems like a good idea.” Meret agreed. “So writing things down using symbols help messengers deliver the correct message, but are there other things that writing is used for?”



← **Show image 6A-4: More hieroglyphs**<sup>3</sup>

“Many things,” Meret’s mother said. “Writing is used so that the big events that happen will be remembered for a long, long time. It is how we can look back and remember things that happened before you and I were even alive!”

“Wow!” Meret said in amazement.

Her mother continued, “So we write to record our history, but we also use it to write down laws that everyone should follow.<sup>4</sup> We use these symbols to write down stories, poems, and even songs.”

“Like the beautiful song you always sing to me, Mother?” Meret inquired.

“Yes, the song I sing to you every night has been written down so that it will be remembered forever,” Meret’s mother answered smiling.

3 Can you remember what these symbols are called? (Pause for students’ responses.)

4 How is this like the Mesopotamians? Who remembers the Code of Hammurabi?



← Show image 6A-5: Meret and her family

“That is good,” Meret said. “I like that song.” She paused and then asked, “So the carvings on the stones of the temple are a form of writing?”

“Yes,” her mother replied. “People also paint or write on wood or papyrus. The messengers I told you about earlier normally take messages written on papyrus.”<sup>5</sup>

“Well I imagine that a stone would be quite heavy to carry!” Meret laughed.

Meret’s mother laughed as well and then said, “But now, my dear, it is time for you to sleep. We are finally home.”

“Will you sing me the song one more time?” Meret asked as they went inside.

Meret’s mother nodded and then began singing. Before she was even done, Meret was fast asleep.

Meret’s favorite song had been written down using hieroglyphics, the ancient Egyptian way of writing.<sup>6</sup> In ancient Egypt, kings, scribes, priests, and craftsmen were some of the few people that understood the meanings of the symbols. These **hieroglyphs**, or single pictures and symbols, were used instead of letters and words to communicate and write down important messages, laws, songs, stories, and prayers so that they would be remembered for many years to come. It wasn’t until hundreds of years later that the word *hieroglyphics* was given to this form of writing.

5 Papyrus is a plant that the Egyptians used to make paper by cutting the inside of the stalk into thin strips, dampening them, pressing them together, and leaving it to dry to form a smooth writing surface.

6 (Have students repeat the word *hieroglyphics*. You may wish to turn back to image 6A-4 as you read the rest of the paragraph.)

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. What is the name for the ancient Egyptian way of writing? (hieroglyphs)
2. Describe the hieroglyphs. (pictures that represented words)
3. Where did the ancient Egyptians write hieroglyphs? (on papyrus, wood, and stone)
4. What kinds of things did the ancient Egyptians write down? (songs, laws, messages, stories, etc.)
5. Why was it important to the ancient Egyptians to write things down? (to have accurate records of what had happened)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

6. *Think Pair Share:* How are hieroglyphs different from cuneiform? How are hieroglyphs the same as cuneiform? (Answers may vary.)

### Word Work: Accurately

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said that “We Egyptians decided it was important to write things down *accurately*.”
2. Say the word *accurately* with me.
3. *Accurately* means correctly and without errors or mistakes.
4. I always check my writing to make sure I spelled my words accurately.
5. What kinds of things can you check to make sure you did them accurately? Try to use the word *accurately* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “I check my \_\_\_\_\_ to make sure I did it accurately.”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

For follow-up, have the students play a game of telephone, where you whisper a statement/message in one student's ear and each one passes it on till every student has had a turn. Ask the last student to tell the class the message. Have the class discuss the end result and whether or not the statement was passed on accurately. Have students use the word *accurately* in their discussion.

Remind them that the read-aloud explained how it was important to the ancient Egyptians to write things down accurately. Continue by playing another game of telephone, but this time, write a simple decodable statement/message on a piece of paper. Have each student read the statement on the paper quietly and pass it to the next student till each has had a turn. Ask the last student to tell the class the message. Discuss how writing helps deliver a message accurately. Have students use the word *accurately* in their discussion.



### **Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 6B

## Writing in Ancient Egypt



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Civilizations Chart

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Show students Image Card 8 (city in ancient Egypt). Talk about the image card and how people settled along the Nile, just like Meret and her family. Ask students how this is similar to Mesopotamia. (They both had cities near rivers.) Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the Civilizations Chart to help them remember that there were cities in ancient Egypt.

Show students Image Card 9 (hieroglyphs). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about hieroglyphs and writing in ancient Egypt. Ask students how this is similar to Mesopotamia. (They both had a way of writing.) Ask students how this is different from Mesopotamia. (Cuneiform and hieroglyphs are different.) Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the Civilizations Chart to help them remember that the ancient Egyptians had a way of writing.

#### Drawing the Read-Aloud (Instructional Master 6B-1)

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Give each student a copy of Instructional Master 6B-1 and a piece of drawing paper.

Give the students the opportunity to talk about the various hieroglyphs on the instructional master. On the board, write a decodable word in hieroglyphs, and show the students how to use the instructional master to decode the word.

Ask the students to write their names, or a decodable word that can be spelled correctly, using the hieroglyphs. Words associated with ancient Egypt would be an excellent choice.

Say: Asking questions is one way to make sure everyone knows what to do. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the directions I have just given you. For example, you could ask, “What should we do first?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your own question now. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

# 7

## *Amon-Ra and the Gods of Ancient Egypt*



### **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Core Content Objectives**

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Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Explain the significance of gods/goddesses in ancient Egypt

#### **Language Arts Objectives**

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Ask questions to clarify directions, exercises, and/or classroom routines (L.1.2)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)

- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

**blossom, n.** The flower on a plant or tree

*Example:* Benjamin picked a beautiful cherry blossom off of the cherry tree.

*Variation(s):* blossoms

**depicted, v.** Represented in words or a picture

*Example:* Her painting depicted a sunny day at the ocean.

*Variation(s):* depict, depicts, depicting

**lotus, n.** An aquatic plant with pink flowers

*Example:* As they rowed down the river, they passed a lotus.

*Variation(s):* lotuses

<i>At a Glance</i>	Exercise	Materials	Minutes
<b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>	Image Cards 7–9 Civilization Chart from previous lessons	
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b>	<b>Amon-Ra and the Gods of Ancient Egypt</b>		15
<b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Depicted</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b>Extensions</b>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Card 10	20
	<b>Domain-Related Trade Book</b>	trade book	

# 7A

## Amon-Ra and the Gods of Ancient Egypt



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### Where Are We?

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### What Have We Already Learned?

Divide the class into three groups. Give each group one of the image cards used for ancient Egypt from the chart: Image Card 7 (farming along the Nile), Image Card 8 (city in ancient Egypt), and Image Card 9 (hieroglyphs). Tell the students that you will give them a few minutes in their groups to talk about the image card and what they have learned about the ancient Egyptian civilization. Then, the class will come back together and each group will have a few minutes to share with the class.

Ask students what they remember about farming, cities, and writing in Mesopotamia. You may wish to refer to the Civilizations Chart to help students remember.

Finally, ask students what they remember about religion in Mesopotamia, again referring to the Civilizations Chart to help students remember. Review with students that the religion of Mesopotamia was polytheistic. Ask if they recall what the word *poly* means, and remind them the Mesopotamians believed there were *many* gods and goddesses.



#### ← Show image 6A-1: Meret and her father returning

Remind students that in the previous lessons, they learned about Meret and her family in ancient Egypt. Have a student point out Meret in the picture. Have them repeat the name *Meret* after you. Tell students that today they will hear more about Meret today and her conversation with her mother about their religion, or belief system, in ancient Egypt.

## **Purpose for Listening**

---

Have students listen carefully to find out what the ancient Egyptian gods looked like and what kinds of things they did.



## Amon-Ra and the Gods of Ancient Egypt

### ← Show image 7A-1: Egyptian gods<sup>1</sup>

1 (Have students describe what they see in the picture.)

The old stories from Egypt said that some of the gods and goddesses looked like animals the Egyptians saw around them in their own country, or a mixture of animals and human beings. For example, one common Egyptian bird was a small hawk called a falcon. The ancient Egyptians believed in a god named Horus (HAWR-US), who was depicted as a man's body topped with the head of a falcon.

2 or shown

Another of their gods, Sobek (so-beck) was **depicted**<sup>2</sup> with a human body, but the head of a crocodile! Now, there have always been real crocodiles living along the banks of the Nile River, and they are always hungry. They often try to catch and eat other animals, and even people who come down to the river to swim or to wash clothes. In the old days, people believed in Sobek,<sup>3</sup> the god with a crocodile's head, so they could pray to him to keep real crocodiles away. The Egyptians were careful to say nice things about him. "See," they would say, "we made a handsome statue of you, great Sobek, and we will leave meat and fish in front of the statue for you to eat."

3 (Point to the image on the right in the illustration.)

Another Egyptian god was depicted as a cat, another as a hippopotamus, and so on. Others looked completely human, but were still thought to have special powers.



### ← Show image 7A-2: Amon-Ra

The ancient Egyptians' most important god had different names in different parts of Egypt. Some people called him Amon (AH-mahn). Some called him Ra (RAH). Sometimes they put these together as Amon-Ra. These were all names for the Egyptian god of the sun, whom they said created everything, including many of the other gods and goddesses.

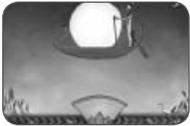
Let's listen as Meret's mother tells her a story about Amon-Ra, the Egyptian god of the sun, and what the ancient Egyptians believed about the creation of the world.



← **Show image 7A-3: Meret and her mother washing clothes**

Meret and her mother were washing clothes down at the edge of the Nile. Meret's mother said, "Amon-Ra started out by living inside a large, beautiful flower called a **lotus**. In those days, everything was covered with water, and the lotus flower was under the waves. Finally Amon-Ra thought, 'It is time for this lotus to rise up out of the water and open its petals.' And because he was powerful, it happened."

"That is amazing!" Meret, said. She turned to set some wet clothes on a large rock so the sun would dry them.



← **Show image 7A-4: Amon-Ra with sun in boat sailing across sky**

Her mother replied, "You have not yet heard the most wonderful part! After the lotus **blossom** opened,<sup>4</sup> Amon-Ra said, 'Now I will make everything else in the world, just by thinking about each thing and using my powers. I will think up other powerful gods and goddesses so I won't be lonely. I will make stars and planets, the sun and the moon, and the birds, fish, plants and animals. And I will make the first human beings, too.' After he made everything, Amon-Ra picked up the sun and put it into a big boat."

"The whole sun?" asked Meret.

"Yes. Amon-Ra is very strong. He sailed his boat with the sun in it across the whole sky until he reached the other side. Then he rested, and did it again the next day. He still does this every day, and when he rests it is night."<sup>5</sup>

4 (Point to the lotus in the picture.)  
The blossom is the flower on the lotus plant.

5 What do you think the Egyptians were trying to explain with this story?



← **Show image 7A-5: Meret and her mother washing clothes**

Meret thought this over and asked, "Why can't we see him or his boat?"

“Maybe he and the boat are too far away, up in the air. We can only see the bright sun shining from the back. Or perhaps the sun is so bright we cannot look carefully enough to see the boat. After all, you must not stare at the sun. That will hurt your eyes.”

Meret said, “Well, I am glad Amon-Ra made the sun, or we could not dry our laundry.” And Meret’s mother laughed.

## **Discussing the Read-Aloud**

**15** minutes

### **Comprehension Questions**

**(10** minutes)

1. Describe the gods/goddesses of ancient Egypt. (They were depicted as animals or part-animal.)
2. What did the ancient Egyptians believe the gods and goddesses did? (took care of people)
3. Who was Amon-Ra? (Many ancient Egyptians believed that he was the god of the sun, the god who created the world.)
4. What did Meret’s mother’s story about Amon-Ra explain? (that she believed Amon-Ra created the world, and was the reason for the rising and setting of the sun)
5. How were the gods and goddesses of ancient Egypt the same or different from the gods/goddesses of Mesopotamia? (There were many gods and goddesses for different things in both Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt. The gods and goddesses of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt looked different.)
6. *What? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *what*. For example, you could ask, “What did you learn about in today’s read-aloud?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your “what” question. Listen to your neighbor’s response. Then your neighbor will ask a new “what” question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

## Word Work: Depicted

(5 minutes)

1. In the read-aloud today, you heard that Sobek (so-beck) was *depicted* as having a human body and the head of a crocodile.
2. Say the word *depicted* with me.
3. When something is depicted, it is represented or shown in pictures, words, or speech.
4. Sammy depicted the playground in his picture as a fun place by drawing all of the different toys and making it bright and sunny.
5. How have you depicted your favorite places? Try to use the word *depicted* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "I depicted my grandmother's house as a picture.")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

For follow-up, have the students draw a picture that depicts a place that they find fun. Have them share their pictures with a partner, using the word *depicted* when they talk about it.



## Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day

# 7B

## *Amon-Ra and the Gods of Ancient Egypt*



### **Extensions**

**20** minutes

#### **Civilizations Chart**

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Show students Image Card 10 (Egyptian gods). Ask students to identify what they see, talk about the image card, and share what they learned from the read-aloud about gods and goddesses in ancient Egypt. Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the Civilizations Chart to help them remember that the ancient Egyptians had a polytheistic religion.

#### **Domain-Related Trade Book**

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Refer to the list of recommended trade books in the domain introduction at the front of this teacher's guide, and choose an additional book about ancient Egypt to read aloud to the class. As you read, use the same strategies that you have been using when reading the read-alouds in this anthology—pause and ask occasional questions, quickly clarify critical vocabulary within the context of the read-aloud, etc.

After you finish reading the trade book read-aloud, lead students in a discussion as to how the story or information in this book relates to the read-alouds in this domain.

You may also ask the students to write a sentence that tells the most interesting thing that was learned from listening to the trade book. You may suggest how to begin the sentence by writing on the board, "The most interesting thing that I learned was . . ."

Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write one complete sentence or several sentences. Give the students the opportunity to share their writing with a partner or the class.

# 8

## Approaching the Great Pyramid



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

---

Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Identify pyramids
- Explain the significance of pyramids in ancient Egypt
- Describe how the pyramids were built

#### Language Arts Objectives

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Ask questions to clarify directions, exercises, and/or classroom routines (L.1.2)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)

- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

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**afterlife, n.** A life believed to begin after death

*Example:* Many peoples and cultures believe in an afterlife.

*Variation(s):* none

**architect, n.** Someone who designs buildings

*Example:* My dad is the architect who designed the shopping mall.

*Variation(s):* architects

**journey, n.** A trip

*Example:* Their journey from home to their grandparents’ house took eight hours.

*Variation(s):* journeys

**pyramid, n.** A structure with triangular sides

*Example:* The family saw the Great Pyramid while on vacation in Egypt.

*Variation(s):* pyramids

**treasure, n.** Something valuable or precious like gold or jewels

*Example:* The pirates found treasure on the ship.

*Variation(s):* treasures

<b><i>At a Glance</i></b>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<b><i>Introducing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b><i>Presenting the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Approaching the Great Pyramid</b>		15
<b><i>Discussing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Treasure</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b><i>Extensions</i></b>	<b>Pyramids and Ziggurats</b>	Image Cards 5 and 11	20
	<b>Drawing the Read-Aloud</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	

# 8A

## Approaching the Great Pyramid



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

**10** minutes

#### Where Are We?

---

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### What Have We Already Learned?

---

Ask the students to share what they have learned about the Nile River and why it was so important to the ancient Egyptians. Tell the students that the Nile River was also important for transportation. The people used boats on the Nile to carry goods and people from place to place.

Then have students share what they have learned about religion in ancient Egypt. Remind students that the ancient Egyptians believed in many gods.

#### Purpose for Listening

---

Ask students what they remember about the ziggurats in Mesopotamia. Explain that in today's read-aloud, they will learn about a building in ancient Egypt that was similar to the ziggurats of Mesopotamia. Tell students that today's read-aloud is about another father and daughter's trip on the Nile. Tell the students to listen carefully to find out why the father and daughter are taking the trip.



## Approaching the Great Pyramid

### ← Show image 8A-1: Setna and Ahweru on boat

- 1 So what was the father's name?  
What was the daughter's name?  
(Ask students to repeat the names after you as you point out the characters in the illustration.)
- 2 A pyramid is a structure with triangular sides.

Long ago, there was an Egyptian priest named Setna (SET-nuh). He was in charge of one part of a giant temple to the gods in his city. Setna had a daughter named Ahweru (ah-WARE-oo), whom he loved very much. <sup>1</sup> When Ahweru was old enough, her father took her on a boat trip down the Nile to a place called Giza (GHEE-zah) so she could see the Great **Pyramid** there. <sup>2</sup>



### ← Show image 8A-2: Isis and Horus

- 3 (Point to each in the illustration as you read.)
- 4 Remember that the ancient Egyptians had a polytheistic religion. What does that mean?

They journeyed for many days as passengers on a large sailing ship. During the voyage, Setna explained to his daughter what the Great Pyramid was, and why it had been built. He said, “We Egyptians say that far to the west lies a place called ‘the beautiful west.’ When someone dies, he or she has the chance to travel there. If they arrive safely, their spirit will be happy forever, for the good god Osiris (o-sy-ris) is king there, and takes good care of everyone. But the journey to this peaceful place is dangerous and hard to make, and not everyone who tries to get there reaches it. So we pray to <sup>3</sup> Osiris and to his wife, Isis, (eye-sis) and to their son, the falcon-headed god Horus. If they wish to do so, these three can help us reach the beautiful west with their powers; so we must make very sure they like us.” <sup>4</sup>

“The god Osiris will even let us bring any **treasure** we have with us when we go there: pretty artwork, or fine clothes, or jewelry, or whatever we most enjoy in this life so that we may have an enjoyable **afterlife**.” <sup>5</sup>

- 5 The afterlife is the next life after death.



### ← Show image 8A-3: Djoser in royal bed

- 6 an Egyptian ruler

“Well, many years ago, there was a pharaoh <sup>6</sup> named Djoser (JOE-sir). One night, Djoser dreamed that one of the gods told him to build a special place for Djoser’s family and servants to put his

body and treasures after he had died. Now, Djoser had a friend working for him who was the smartest man alive in those days. This friend's name was Imhotep (im-HO-tep). Imhotep was the greatest **architect** in Egypt.”

At this point, Setna's daughter Ahweru interrupted. “Father, what is an ‘architect’?”

“An architect is a person who decides how a building should look and draws the plan the builders follow. Today in Egypt, our builders usually follow the same plans that Egyptian architects have used for thousands of years. But Imhotep was the one who first created many of those plans.”

“He must have been the best architect ever.”



← **Show image 8A-4: Djoser's pyramid**

“Pharaoh Djoser certainly thought so. He called Imhotep to the palace and told him about the dream. The pharaoh said, ‘Imhotep, build me a building that reaches up toward the sky in honor of the gods. Make the middle of it an open space for me, and for my treasures, for after I die. Make it special.’ So Imhotep built the first pyramid. The bottom of it is an enormous stone square, and then the four sides reach upward, leaning in toward one another until they meet at the top. The sides of that first pyramid are built in steps, making it easy to climb up the outside. Well, Djoser's pyramid was so wonderful that the pharaohs after him wanted pyramids, too, but with smooth sides, not steps.”

“Much later came another pharaoh named Khufu (KOO-foo).<sup>7</sup> Pharaoh Khufu wanted people to know what an important pharaoh he was, so he commanded his people to build him the biggest pyramid of all: the Great Pyramid.<sup>8</sup>

← **Show image 8A-5: Setna and Ahweru on boat, looking at village**

Setna and his daughter Ahweru continued sailing for many days on their way to see the Great Pyramid at Giza (GHEE-zuh) and were nearing the end of their long **journey**<sup>9</sup> along the Nile

7 So what was a ruler in ancient Egypt called?

8 So he ordered his people to build him the biggest pyramid of all.



9 or trip

when suddenly, Setna pointed up ahead and said, “Look, my dear Ahweru! What do you see?”



← **Show image 8A-6: Setna pointing at the Great Pyramid in the distance**

Ahweru’s eyes opened wide with excitement. “Is that the top of the Great Pyramid, Father? Are we getting close?”

“It is the top, but we are still a long way from it. We will not be there until tomorrow. It will start getting dark soon, so we will be stopping shortly. But it is so tall that we can begin to see it even from this distance.”

The top of the pyramid shone brightly. “It is like the sun, Father!” Ahweru exclaimed.

“That is because the top is covered in gold that the pharaoh ordered to be brought from his mines in the desert,<sup>10</sup> and the sides are covered in smooth, white stone. The pyramid shines in the sun.

“The whole top is gold?”

“Yes. You see, Pharaoh Khufu wanted to show how powerful he was. He said, ‘I am the greatest ruler on earth, and the god of the sun, Amon-Ra, is the greatest of the gods, the one who created the world. My pyramid will shine in the sunlight to honor Amon-Ra and to remind everyone that, just as he created the world, I created this pyramid and am also great. I will be famous forever!’” Setna looked again at that shining peak. “And all these years later, Ahweru, we are indeed standing here talking about Pharaoh Khufu.”

10 Mines are places where people dig deep into the earth to get minerals like gold.



← **Show image 8A-7: Setna and Ahweru on dock**

“But now it’s time for our boat to dock for the night. We will go into that town over there, get some dinner, then go to sleep. Because I am a priest at the temple of Karnak, we are invited to stay at the temple in this place. Come on, then. You will get to see the Great Pyramid up close tomorrow. It’s the most amazing building ever made!” And they stepped off their boat onto the wooden dock at the shore.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. Why were Setna and Ahweru traveling on the Nile? (to see the Great Pyramid)
2. How do you think Ahweru feels about seeing the Great Pyramid? Why? (Answers may vary.)
3. Why was the Great Pyramid built? (as a burial place for Pharaoh Khufu)
4. What else was placed in the pyramid besides the person's body? (treasure)
5. Why was treasure also placed in the pyramid? (Egyptians believed the person would use these things in the next life or afterlife.)
6. How would you describe a pyramid to a friend? (Answers may vary but may include tall, square base; four triangular sides; etc.)
7. What was the pyramid made of? (gold and stones)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

8. *Think Pair Share:* Why did Khufu command that such a large pyramid be built? (to be his burial place; to show his power; to hold lots of treasure; so that he is remembered; etc.)

### Word Work: Treasure

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said, "The god Osiris will even let us bring any *treasure* we have with us when we go there."
2. Say the word *treasure* with me.
3. Treasure is gold, jewels, or other valuable things.
4. Columbus traveled across the ocean hoping to find treasure.
5. What things have you seen or heard about that you would

consider treasure? Who might have treasure? Where might treasure be kept? Try to use the word *treasure* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "The treasure is kept in . . .")

6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Tell the students to pretend that they will be given any treasure that they request. Have them draw a picture of the treasure they would like to have and explain why in writing. Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write a word or two, one complete sentence, or several sentences. Give students the opportunity to share their drawings and writing with a partner or the class, being sure they use the word *treasure*.



## Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day

# 8B

## Approaching the Great Pyramid



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Pyramids and Ziggurats

---

Show students Image Card 11 (pyramid). Ask students to identify what they see, talk about the image card, and share what they learned from the read-aloud about pyramids in ancient Egypt. Show students Image Card 5 (ziggurat). Ask students how pyramids are similar to the ziggurats of Mesopotamia. (The shape is similar.) Ask students how the pyramid is different from the ziggurat. (The pyramid was a burial place.)

#### Drawing the Read-Aloud

---

Tell the students to think about the read-aloud that they listened to earlier in the day: “Approaching the Great Pyramid.” Tell them to draw three details that they remember about the read-aloud, allowing no more than six to eight minutes for the drawing. Explain that the drawing does not have to recreate a “scene” from the read-aloud or represent a coherent, integrated drawing of the read-aloud; the students may draw any three “things” that they remember about the read-aloud. Tell the students to also write about each of the three things. Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write one word or a complete sentence.

Say: Asking questions is one way to make sure everyone knows what to do. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the directions I have just given you. For example, you could ask, ‘What should we do first?’ Turn to your neighbor and ask your own question now. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

Give the students the opportunity to share their drawings and writing with a partner or the class. As the students share, you will expand their responses using richer and more complex language, including, if possible, any read-aloud vocabulary.

# 9

## The Sphinx



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

---

Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Explain that much of Egypt is the Sahara Desert
- Describe how the pyramids were built
- Identify the Sphinx
- Explain the significance of the Sphinx in ancient Egypt

#### Language Arts Objectives

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Make predictions (orally or in writing) prior to and during a read-aloud, based on the title, pictures, and/or text heard thus far, and then compare the actual outcomes to predictions (L.1.12)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)

- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details, and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Use narrative language to describe (orally or in writing) characters, a scene, facts, or events in a read-aloud (L.1.19)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Evaluate and select read-alouds, books, or poems on the basis of personal choice for rereading (L.1.27)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

---

**base, n.** The lowest or bottom part of something

*Example:* The climbers waited for their teammate at the base of the mountain.

*Variation(s):* bases

**Sphinx, n.** An imaginary creature with the body of a lion and head of a human

*Example:* She had seen many pictures of the Sphinx in books about Egypt.

*Variation(s):* none

**tugged, v.** Pulled hard on something

*Example:* Her little brother always tugged her hair in the car.

*Variation(s):* tug, tugs, tugging

**visible, adj.** Can be seen

*Example:* The stars were visible because it was a clear night.

*Variation(s):* none

<b><i>At a Glance</i></b>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<b><i>Introducing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b><i>Presenting the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>The Sphinx</b>		15
<b><i>Discussing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Visible</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b><i>Extensions</i></b>	<b>Pyramids and the Sphinx</b>	Image Cards 11 and 12	20
	<b>Student Choice</b>		

# 9A

## *The Sphinx*



### **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

#### **Where Are We?**

---

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### **Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud**

---

Tell the students that they are going to listen to the next part of the story of Setna and Ahweru traveling to see the Great Pyramid. Setna and Ahweru also see another famous Egyptian structure.

Have the students review what has happened so far by showing and discussing the images from the previous read-aloud. Have the students predict what they think will happen in the next part of the story.

#### **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell the students to listen carefully to the read-aloud to find out whether or not their predictions were correct.



1 More and more of the pyramid could be seen.

### The Sphinx

#### ← Show image 9A-1: Three pyramids

The next morning, as their boat sailed closer and closer, Ahweru kept thinking, “Surely this must be all of it. There cannot be any more.” But more and more of the pyramid became **visible** to them.<sup>1</sup> Soon Ahweru could see other pyramids near the great one, too. She was sure they must be very large, but they looked tiny compared to that of Khufu. Ahweru could not take her eyes off that one.

No wonder she was amazed. Even today, when we have skyscrapers reaching over one hundred stories into the air; the Great Pyramid is one of the world’s most thrilling sights. However, the pointed top is gone now. Later people took the stone to build other things, and kept the gold for themselves. Also, the smooth, white stone has worn away from the sides, revealing enormous blocks of tan limestone that the white stone originally covered.



#### ← Show image 9A-2: Workers pulling stones

But even without the top, the Great Pyramid is 450 feet tall. That’s about thirty-six stories high. While we have much taller buildings today, remember that the stone blocks the Egyptians moved—with just sheer muscle power—weighed thousands of pounds. That’s more than several large automobiles put together. They cut the stone blocks from mountains further up the Nile, and floated them downstream to Giza on flat-topped boats. Then they threw ropes around the blocks, gathered dozens of workers to pull the ropes, and dragged the blocks across rows of smooth, heavy logs to the pyramid. Then more workers **tugged** and tugged on the ropes to pull the blocks up big ramps and into place.<sup>2</sup>

2 The workers pulled very hard on the ropes.



← **Show image 9A-3: Setna and Ahweru approaching Sphinx**

As Ahweru stepped off the ship and approached the Great Pyramid, something else caught her eye. Ahead of her, rising out of the sand, lay a giant statue with the body of a lion and the head of a man. She said, “Father, is that . . .”

3 The Sphinx has the head of a man on the body of a lion.

“Yes,” said Setna, “that is the Great **Sphinx**.<sup>3</sup> It is nearly as famous as the pyramid of Pharaoh Khufu, though nowhere near as big.”

“Did Pharaoh Khufu build the Sphinx, too? Or did one of the gods do that?”

“It was a god, daughter, a living god.”

Ahweru understood. “You mean a pharaoh. Then I was right: It was Khufu.”

“Actually, it was his son, the Pharaoh Khafre (KAHF-rey). I suppose, like his father, he wanted to be remembered for something. But he knew that the people of Egypt had spent twenty years building his father’s pyramid, and that it had cost an unbelievable amount of gold to do it. Perhaps Khafre did not wish to spend that much time and money. So he built the second largest pyramid—that one over there.”



← **Show image 9A-4: Setna pointing to pyramid**

He stopped and pointed, and Ahweru said, “When we were on the boat, that one looked bigger than the Great Pyramid. But now I see it is smaller. Why is that, Father?”

“It is built on higher ground, Ahweru, so as you approach, the second pyramid seems to be the bigger of the two. Once you reach this place, however, with both of them right in front of you, it is clear which is truly the greatest. At any rate, while Khafre knew he could not match his father’s pyramid, he must have wondered what he could do so that he, too, would be remembered forever. I suppose that was one reason for building the Great Sphinx. Look at the face, my daughter; it is the face of Pharaoh Khafre himself.”



← **Show image 9A-5: Setna and Ahweru looking at Sphinx**

“The Sphinx’s face is made to look like the pharaoh’s face? Why?”

“We do not know for certain, for the years have not been kind to the Great Sphinx. Twice since it was built, the sands of the desert have swallowed it up, covering it almost completely. I think there may once have been writing around the **base**, but the sand rubbed that away.<sup>4</sup> Maybe the writing told why the pharaoh put his own face on it, but if so, those words are gone.”<sup>5</sup>

“However, an old story says that the lion was given the pharaoh’s face to show that Khafre was as fierce and powerful as a lion. The story adds that he set it in front of the pyramids to protect them.”

“That makes sense to me. After all, there are littler sphinxes up near the temple at Karnak to help guard it magically.”<sup>6</sup>

“Yes. This one is certainly not the only sphinx in Egypt, nor the only statue set up to guard a place. But because this one is the biggest and most beautiful, it is called ‘great.’ And today we Egyptians say that the Great Sphinx is a form of the Sun god. And now, my daughter it is time to begin our long journey home.”<sup>7</sup>

Ahweru stood and looked at the huge statue for a moment. Then she said, “I am glad that I was able to see the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx. Thank you for bringing me, Father.”

← **Show image 9A-6: Setna and Ahweru walking away from Sphinx**

“You are welcome,” Setna replied. And father and daughter returned to the boat to begin their journey home.

4 The base is the bottom part.

5 Why do you think the pharaoh put his own face on the Sphinx?

6 At least, that is what many ancient Egyptians believed.

7 What’s a journey?



## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. Were your predictions correct? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)
2. How do you think Ahweru felt when she finally saw the Great Pyramid? (excited, happy, etc.)
3. What was the pyramid made of back then? (gold and stones)
4. How was the pyramid built? (by floating blocks down the Nile; by many people dragging the stones to be put in place; etc.)
5. Do you think it was harder or easier to build something like a pyramid in ancient times than it is to build a tall building today? (It was harder in ancient times because they did not have the machines that we now have.)
6. How would you describe the Great Sphinx to someone? (a statue with the body of a lion and the head of a man)
7. Why do you think the pharaoh Khafre decided to have the Great Sphinx built? (He wanted to show how powerful he was; he thought it would protect the pyramid; etc.)
8. Why is the Sphinx that Ahweru and Setna saw called the Great Sphinx? (There are other sphinxes that are smaller.)
9. *What? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *what*. For example, you could ask, “What events do you remember from today’s story that Setna told about the Great Sphinx?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your “what” question. Listen to your neighbor’s response. Then your neighbor will ask a new “what” question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

## Word Work: Visible

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said “But more and more of the pyramid became *visible* to them.”
2. Say the word *visible* with me.
3. If something is visible, it can be seen.
4. The sun is visible on a clear day.
5. What things are visible in the classroom? Try to use the word *visible* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “The chalkboard is visible.”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

For follow-up, show image 9A-1. Have students identify the things that are visible in the image. Remind the students to use the word *visible* in their responses.

If time permits, you may want to teach students about the antonym: invisible.



## Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day

# 9B

## *The Sphinx*



### **Extensions**

**20** minutes

#### **Pyramids and the Sphinx**

---

Show students Image Card 12 (Sphinx). Have the students identify the picture, talk about the image card, and share what they learned from the read-aloud about the Great Sphinx. Ask students how the Great Sphinx is similar to the pyramids. (They were both built by ancient Egyptians, etc.) Show Image Card 11 (pyramid) and ask students how the Great Sphinx is different from the pyramids. (The Great Sphinx was not a burial place; the pharaoh built the Great Sphinx to protect the pyramid).

#### **Student Choice**

---

Ask the students which read-aloud they have heard recently that they would like to hear again. If necessary, reread the titles of recent read-alouds to refresh the students' memories. You may also want to choose one yourself.

Reread the text that is selected. Feel free to pause at different places in the read-aloud this time and talk about vocabulary and information that you did not discuss previously during the read-aloud.

After the read-aloud, ask students if they noticed anything new or different during the second reading that they did not notice during the first reading. Also, ask them to try to express why they like this read-aloud. Remember to repeat and expand upon each response using richer and more complex language, including, if possible, any read-aloud vocabulary.

# 10

## *The Story of Hatshepsut*



### **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Core Content Objectives**

---

Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Identify Hatshepsut as a pharaoh of ancient Egypt
- Explain the significance of Hatshepsut as pharaoh

#### **Language Arts Objectives**

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Make predictions (orally or in writing) prior to and during a read-aloud, based on the title, pictures, and/or text heard thus far, and then compare the actual outcomes to predictions (L.1.12)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)

- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

---

**accomplishments, n.** Successes or achievements, things done well

*Example:* Writing a book about the desert was one of her many accomplishments.

*Variation(s):* accomplishment

**counselors, n.** People who give advice

*Example:* The king talked to his counselors about the peace agreement.

*Variation(s):* counselor

**declare, v.** To say or make known to everyone

*Example:* After the judges score the athletes’ performances, they declare a winner.

*Variation(s):* declares, declared, declaring

**pharaohs, n.** Kings or rulers of ancient Egypt

*Example:* Most of the pharaohs of ancient Egypt were male.

*Variation(s):* pharaoh

**tradition, n.** A special belief or way of doing something that hasn’t changed over the years

*Example:* Her favorite family tradition is going to the beach at the beginning of summer vacation.

*Variation(s):* traditions

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>	Civilizations Chart from previous lessons Image Cards 4, 6–10	
	<b>Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud</b>	Image Cards 11 and 12	
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>The Story of Hatshepsut</b>		15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Tradition</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Image Card 13	20
	<b>Somebody Wanted But So Then</b>	Instructional Master 10B-1 (optional)	

# 10A

## *The Story of Hatshepsut*



### **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

#### **Where Are We?**

---

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### **What Have We Already Learned?**

---

Divide the class into four groups. Give each group one of the image cards used for ancient Egypt from the chart: Image Card 7 (farming along the Nile), Image Card 8 (city in ancient Egypt), Image Card 9 (hieroglyphs), and Image Card 10 (Egyptian gods). Tell the students that you will give them a few minutes in their groups to talk about the image card and what they have learned about the ancient Egyptian civilization. Then, the class will come back together and each group will have a few minutes to share with the class.

Ask students what they remember about farming, cities, writing, and religion in Mesopotamia. You may wish to refer to the Civilizations Chart to help students remember.

Finally, ask students what they remember about the leaders in Mesopotamia, again referring to the Civilizations Chart to help students remember. Ask the students what the leader of Mesopotamia was called and have them share what they remember about the various kings and their contribution to the cradle of civilization. Show the applicable image cards: Code of Hammurabi (Image Card 4) and Nebuchadnezzar (Image Card 6).

## **Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud**

---

Tell students that they have already learned about several pharaohs or leaders in ancient Egypt who built some amazing architectural structures. Ask if anyone can name the ones you've already discussed. Show Image Card 11 (pyramid) and Image Card 12 (Sphinx) as a reminder. Tell them that today they will hear about another ancient Egyptian leader, a pharaoh named Hatshepsut. Tell them that there is something very different about this leader compared to the other leaders they have learned about thus far. Ask the students to predict what is so different about Hatshepsut.

## **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell the students to listen carefully to the read-aloud to find out whether or not their predictions are correct.



## The Story of Hatshepsut

### ← Show image 10A-1: Pharaoh

In ancient times, kings of Egypt were called **pharaohs**. Today we think that pharaoh always meant “king,” but at first it just meant “big house” or “palace,” because the pharaoh was the person who lived in the biggest house in Egypt, the royal palace.



### ← Show image 10A-2: Farmers working near the Nile <sup>1</sup>

Pharaohs were considered much more than kings, however. The Nile floods meant life or death to the Egyptians, and they thought the pharaoh had something to do with making the Nile overflow each spring. In fact, they believed the pharaoh was not just a man; they thought he was also a god. The ancient Egyptians had certain rules that told how a pharaoh should be chosen.

1 (Ask students to describe the image. Ask students to describe what happened to the Nile River each year and what that meant for the crops that the Egyptians wanted to grow.)

And like so many other things the Egyptians did—whether it was the way they painted their pictures, or dressed, or prayed—once they decided how to do something, they didn’t like to change the rules. But about three thousand, five hundred years ago—which is a very long time—somebody changed the rules for them. And that person was a princess. <sup>2</sup>

2 How do you think a princess was able to change the rules for all of Egypt?



### ← Show image 10A-3: Young Hatshepsut talking to pharaoh

Hatshepsut—think of her name as “hat, *shep*, soot”—was daughter of a pharaoh named Thutmose (thut-MOE-se) the First. Thutmose was already fairly old when he became pharaoh, and he wanted to do all he could for Egypt in the time left him, so he worked extra hard. As he got older, he could not keep up this pace. Luckily, his beloved daughter, Hatshepsut, said, “I will help you run Egypt, father.”

“Thank you, daughter,” he replied, and he gave her more and more of his responsibilities to handle. Hatshepsut enjoyed this, and did a fine job. But then, sadly, Thutmose the First grew ill and died. <sup>3</sup>

3 What do you predict Hatshepsut will do now?

- 4 A tradition is doing something the same way again and again over time.



← **Show image 10A-4: Pharaoh and Hatshepsut sitting on thrones**

So the Egyptians needed a new pharaoh. You might think they would pick Hatshepsut, since she already knew how to do the job. But **tradition** said the pharaoh had to be male, not female, and we know how the Egyptians felt about not changing rules.<sup>4</sup> So Hatshepsut's cousin became Pharaoh Thutmose the Second.

Then Thutmose the Second also died and the royal court chose Hatshepsut's young nephew to become Pharaoh Thutmose the Third. But Hatshepsut had had enough of doing all the work while someone else got to be pharaoh. She announced, "I have decided to become co-ruler of Egypt with my nephew, Thutmose the Third. We will be pharaohs together."

- 5 Counselors are people who give advice.
- 6 What do you think she did?
- 7 *Declare* means to announce or tell everyone.



← **Show image 10A-5: Hatshepsut dressed as man with beard**

One of the wise, old **counselors** hobbled forward and said, "Excuse me, Princess, but I'm sure you remember that the pharaoh has to be . . . a man!"<sup>5</sup>

For what she did next, Hatshepsut has been called "the first great woman in human history."<sup>6</sup> She simply replied, "That is no problem. I officially **declare** myself a man!"<sup>7</sup>

So Hatshepsut and Thutmose the Third were both called "pharaoh," but she ran the country. She directed builders and artists to put up pictures and statues of her dressed as a man, and even wearing a beard. (It was so hot in Egypt in those days before air conditioning that, in order to stay cooler, Egyptians shaved their heads, and the men wore no beards or mustaches. But pharaohs wore skinny, fake beards in order to look wise. Only now it was a woman wearing the beard!)



← **Show image 10A-6: Hatshepsut's temple**

Hatshepsut was an excellent pharaoh. She constructed one of the greatest temples to the Egyptian gods, and built up trade between Egypt and some of her distant neighbors. Every time she did something good, her builders would carve advertisements into

8 Accomplishments are things you have done well.



← **Show image 10A-7: Statue of Hatshepsut**

the walls of buildings, describing the terrific job Hatshepsut was doing.

After Hatshepsut's death, Thutmose decided to put up walls to cover up the images of Hatshepsut's **accomplishments**.<sup>8</sup> Thutmose also set out to conquer many other countries around Egypt, making Egypt and her people incredibly rich and powerful. Today he is considered one of the greatest of all the ancient pharaohs.

Thousands of years later, modern scientists found the broken statues and put them back together, and took down the walls hiding the temple carvings. Those walls had actually protected from destruction and harsh weather Hatshepsut's image, and the words she had chosen to tell about herself. Thutmose had preserved by accident the memory of Hatshepsut, the woman who made herself a pharaoh.

## ***Discussing the Read-Aloud***

**15** *minutes*

### **Comprehension Questions**

**(10** *minutes***)**

1. Did the ancient Egyptian civilization have a leader? (yes) What was the leader called? (pharaoh)
2. Who did the Egyptians think controlled the flooding of the Nile? (the pharaoh)
3. How was Hatshepsut different from the other pharaohs? (female)
4. How was Hatshepsut like other pharaohs? (ruler)
5. What kinds of things did Hatshepsut do while pharaoh? (She had pictures and statues made of her dressed as a man; she had a temple built; she traded with neighbors.)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

6. *Think Pair Share:* Why was it so important to Hatshepsut to be pharaoh that she declared herself a man? (She had already been doing the work; she thought she was the best person to be the leader; etc.)

### Word Work: Tradition

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said, “But *tradition* said the pharaoh had to be male, not female, and we know how the Egyptians felt about not changing rules.”
2. Say the word *tradition* with me.
3. A tradition is a way of doing something that has continued in the same way for many years.
4. My family has a tradition of watching fireworks on the Fourth of July.
5. Does your family have a certain tradition? Try to use the word *tradition* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “My family has a tradition of . . .”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

For follow-up, have the students draw a picture of a family tradition. Then, ask them to write about the drawing. Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write a word or two, one complete sentence, or several sentences. Give students the opportunity to share their drawings and writing with a partner or the class, being sure they use the word *tradition*.



### Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day

# 10B

## The Story of Hatshepsut



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Civilizations Chart

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Show students Image Card 13 (Hatshepsut). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about Hatshepsut and pharaohs in ancient Egypt. Ask students how this is similar to Mesopotamia. (They both had rulers who influenced what happened during the development of the civilization.) Ask students how this is different from Mesopotamia. (Hatshepsut was female.) Tell the students that you are going to place the image card on the Civilizations Chart to help them remember that the ancient Egyptians had leaders called pharaohs.

#### Somebody Wanted But So Then (Instructional Master 10B-1, optional)

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Write the following blank summary chart on a piece of chart paper:

Somebody	
Wanted	
But	
So	
Then	

Tell the students that they are going to talk about the read-aloud and that you are going to write down what they say, but that they are not expected to be able to read what you write because they are still learning all the rules for decoding. Emphasize that you are writing what they say so that you don't forget, and that you will read the words to them. Modeling this type of writing will help prepare students to do this type of activity on their own. An instructional master has been included if you have students who are ready to do the writing on their own.

Ask the students who the read-aloud was about. Tell them that you are going to write Hatshepsut's name on the chart.

Ask the students what Hatshepsut wanted. Tell them that you are going to write that Hatshepsut wanted to be pharaoh.

Ask the students what kept Hatshepsut from being pharaoh at first. Tell them that you are going to write that the tradition was that only men could be pharaohs.

Ask the students what Hatshepsut decided to do. Tell them that you are going to write that Hatshepsut declared herself a man.

Ask the students what happened once Hatshepsut declared herself a man. Tell them that you are going to write that she ruled as pharaoh.

<b>Somebody</b>	Hatshepsut
<b>Wanted</b>	Wanted to be pharaoh
<b>But</b>	But, tradition said that only men could be pharaoh.
<b>So</b>	So, Hatshepsut declared herself a man.
<b>Then</b>	Then, Hatshepsut ruled as pharaoh.

Read the completed chart to the class.

# 11

## *Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part I*



### **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Core Content Objectives**

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Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Identify Tutankhamun as a pharaoh of ancient Egypt
- Describe key components of a civilization
- Understand that much of what we know about ancient Egypt is because of the work of archaeologists

#### **Language Arts Objectives**

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read-aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)

- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Compare and contrast (orally or in writing) similarities and differences within a single read-aloud or between two or more read-alouds (L.1.21)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

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**archaeologist, n.** A scientist who studies the way people lived in the past  
*Example:* The archaeologists worked for years to find the location of the ancient city.

*Variation(s):* archaeologists

**authority, n.** Power to make or enforce rules or laws

*Example:* The police have the authority to stop speeding cars.

*Variation(s):* authorities

**passage, n.** A space along which something or someone may pass, i.e., a hallway

*Example:* The group walked along a secret passage in the castle.

*Variation(s):* passages

**tomb, n.** A place for the burial of the dead

*Example:* The pharaoh was buried in a tomb.

*Variation(s):* tombs

**valuable, adj.** Precious, or worth a lot of money

*Example:* The dishes had been in the family for many years and were very valuable.

*Variation(s):* none

<b><i>At a Glance</i></b>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<b><i>Introducing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Where Are We?</b>	world map or globe	10
	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b><i>Presenting the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Tutankamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part I</b>		15
<b><i>Discussing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Archaeologist</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b><i>Extensions</i></b>	<b>Civilizations Chart</b>	Instructional Master 4B-1 Image Cards 7–14	20

# 11A

## *Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part I*



### **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

#### **Where Are We?**

---

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### **What Have We Already Learned?**

---

Ask the students what they have already learned about pharaohs of ancient Egypt and more specifically Hatshepsut. You may prompt discussion with the following questions:

- What was the job of a pharaoh? (ruler)
- How was Hatshepsut different from other pharaohs? (female)
- What kinds of things did Hatshepsut do as pharaoh? (had statues made of herself, had a temple built, traded with neighbors)

#### **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell the students that the next read-aloud is about other pharaohs of ancient Egypt. Tell the students to listen carefully to learn more about pharaohs of ancient Egypt.



## Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part I

### ← Show image 11A-1: King Tut

Many years after Hatshepsut ruled, another pharaoh would rule for nine years and then be almost completely forgotten for three thousand years. His name was Tutankhamun (toot-awn-KAH-mun), although today he is known all over the world as “King Tut.” Tutankhamun was only nine years old when he became pharaoh, and he died when he was only nineteen.



### ← Show image 11A-2: Valley of the Kings

We are not sure why he died at such an early age. After his death, some thought he may have had some sort of accident. He was not buried in a pyramid like the pharaohs in Hatshepsut’s time; instead, during King Tut’s time, pharaohs were buried in the hillsides of a valley. That valley was called the Valley of the Kings. None of the tombs of the pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings were marked. So in an unmarked **tomb** in that valley,<sup>1</sup> Pharaoh Tutankhamun would rest, surrounded by treasure and forgotten by the world, for nearly thirty-three centuries.<sup>2</sup>

1 A tomb is a place where someone is buried after they die.

2 That’s more than three thousand years—a really, really long time!



### ← Show image 11A-3: Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon working as archaeologists

Now we will jump way ahead in time from ancient Egypt to a time closer to today. Almost one hundred years ago, a British **archaeologist** named Howard Carter was interested in trying to find the lost tombs in the Valley of the Kings.<sup>3</sup> Carter’s partner was a British nobleman, Lord Carnarvon. Carnarvon was also interested in finding the lost tombs in the Valley of the Kings.

3 An archaeologist is a scientist who studies the people of the past by looking at what they left behind, such as tools or pottery.

Over the next few years, working for and often accompanied by Lord Carnarvon, Carter found a number of ancient objects scattered throughout the valley. But he had in mind a greater prize.<sup>4</sup> Another archaeologist found objects that had hieroglyphs written on them mentioning Pharaoh Tutankhamun. Howard Carter

4 What greater prize do you think Carter had in mind?

5 Remember, the location of Tutankhamun's tomb had been forgotten long ago. Do you think Carter will be able to find King Tut's tomb?

6 *Valuable* means precious or worth a lot of money.

was determined to find the tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamun and was convinced that somewhere in the Valley of the Kings lay Tutankhamun's hidden burial site. Could he find it?<sup>5</sup>

Trying to find the location of the tomb was not always easy—or safe. Robbers often showed up to steal any **valuable** objects whenever they heard of new discoveries.<sup>6</sup>

In a book about his career, archaeologist Howard Carter wrote about one dangerous encounter with such thieves in the Valley of the Kings. A band of robbers had learned of a discovery, and on a moonlit night, the thieves crept through the shadows of the valley, determined to steal whatever they could carry away. But just as they were starting to gather the loot, a second band of robbers appeared with the same idea! Instantly, the two gangs attacked one another in a fierce battle there in the moonlight amid the burial sites of the ancient pharaohs. The second gang chased off the first, but Howard Carter, in his nearby camp, heard the noise of their fight. Here is how he calmly described what happened next.



← **Show image 11A-4: Valley of the Kings**

"I collected the few of my workmen still nearby, and set out for the scene of action, an expedition involving a climb of more than 1,800 feet over the hills in the moonlight. It was midnight when we arrived on the scene. The guide pointed out to me the end of a rope dangling down the face of the cliff. Listening, we could hear the robbers actually at work. I first cut their rope, cutting off their means of escape. Then, making secure a good, stout rope of my own, I lowered myself down the cliff."<sup>7</sup>

7 How do you think Howard Carter felt at that moment?



← **Show image 11A-5: Carter shinnying down rope to a group of tomb robbers**

". . . There were eight [robbers] at work, and when I neared the bottom, there was an awkward moment or two. . . . Eventually [the robbers] saw reason and departed. The rest of the night I spent guarding the spot."<sup>8</sup>

8 Why do you think Howard Carter stayed to guard the spot?



← **Show image 11A-6: Archaeological dig of Carter**

For six years, archaeologist Howard Carter searched for the tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamun. The two men had focused their attention on one area in the Valley of the Kings. All that was left was the ground beneath some huts in which ancient workers had lived while digging the royal tombs. Carter decided to give this area one last try. He and his men removed the huts and leveled off the soil below. As Carter finished removing the first of the workers' huts, he found something very exciting! For there—lost to the world for thirty-two centuries, and almost overlooked by Carter and his partner Carnarvon in six years of digging—was a stone staircase leading down into the rocky floor of the valley!<sup>9</sup>

9 Where do you think the stone staircase leads? How do you think Howard Carter feels?



← **Show image 11A-7: Door sealed shut**

Carter and his men uncovered the steps one by one until, as they cleared the dirt from the top of the twelfth step, they saw beyond it, in Carter's own words, the upper part of a doorway. Atop the door was a hieroglyphic seal showing that the door had been sealed shut under royal **authority**.<sup>10</sup> Whoever had been buried here was either royal or someone very important to the pharaoh.

10 Authority is power to make and enforce rules.



← **Show image 11A-8: Carter looking through hole in door**

Almost overcome with excitement, Carter cut a small hole in the door and shone a light through the hole. Inside, he saw a hallway filled to the top with rocks. It took all his self-control not to break through and begin flinging the rocks out. Instead, leaving some of his men to guard the place, he covered the door up again and rode off through the moonlight, thinking, "Anything might lie beyond that **passage!**"<sup>11</sup> Yet none of them was exactly sure what Carter had found.

11 A passage is a hallway.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. What do you think Carter found? (Answers may vary.)
2. What was the name of the pharaoh in today's read-aloud? (Tutankhamun) What is Tutankhamun's nickname? (King Tut)
3. Was King Tut an adult or a child when he became pharaoh? How old was he? (He was a child, just nine years old.)
4. Was King Tut pharaoh for many, many years or for just a short time? Why? (He ruled for a short time because he died at about age nineteen.)
5. Was King Tut buried in a pyramid? Why not? (No, because pyramids were no longer used for burial.) Where was he buried? (in a tomb in the Valley of the Kings)
6. Do you think you could rule a country at age nine? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)
7. Who was Howard Carter? (an archaeologist looking for Tut's tomb) Why do you think he was interested in finding King Tut's tomb? (He wanted to be famous; he thought there would be lots of treasure; etc.)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

8. *Think Pair Share:* Would you have liked to work with Carter? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)

### Word Work: Archaeologist

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said, "A British *archaeologist* named Howard Carter was interested in trying to find the lost tombs in the Valley of the Kings."
2. Say the word *archaeologist* with me.
3. An archaeologist is a scientist who studies people of the past by looking at what they left behind, such as tools or pottery.

Archaeologists often dig into the ground to find what was left behind.

4. An archaeologist recently found pottery from an ancient Native American village.
5. Have you ever heard about the work of an archaeologist? Try to use the word *archaeologist* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "I saw on TV that an archaeologist . . .")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Directions: I am going to read a sentence. If it describes the work of an archaeologist, say, "That's an archaeologist." If it does not describe the work of an archaeologist, say, "That's not an archaeologist."

1. I have been digging for evidence of how the Pilgrims lived long ago. (That's an archaeologist.)
2. I have been digging up potatoes from my garden. (That's not an archaeologist.)
3. I have been digging for evidence that Native Americans lived in this area long ago. (That's an archaeologist.)
4. I have been digging a hole to plant a tree. (That's not an archaeologist.)
5. I have been digging for evidence that there used to be a city along the banks of the river. (That's an archaeologist.)



### **Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 11B

## *Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part I*



### **Extensions**

**20** minutes

#### **Civilizations Chart (Instructional Master 4B-1)**

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Show students Image Card 14 (Tutankhamun). Talk about the image card and have students share what they learned from the read-aloud about King Tut. Ask students how King Tut was similar to Hatshepsut. (They were both leaders or pharaohs in ancient Egypt.) Ask students how King Tut was different from Hatshepsut. (male, etc.)

Use the Civilizations Chart and Image Cards 7–14 to review what has been learned about ancient Egypt. Divide the class into eight groups. Give each group one of the image cards to discuss within the group. Then, have the groups come back together and share with the class. Remember to repeat and expand upon each response using richer and more complex language, including, if possible, any read-aloud vocabulary.

Explain that we know that there was a civilization in ancient Egypt because the people farmed near the Nile, built cities, developed a way of writing, had leaders called pharaohs, had a religion, and built structures, including pyramids and the Great Sphinx.

Pass out the students' copies of Instructional Master 4B-1 that they started in Lesson 4. Have students draw pictures to show what they have learned about the various components of the ancient Egyptian civilization. Students who are ready may also write words or sentences. After completing the ancient Egypt section, students may talk with a partner or as a class about how the two civilizations compare.

Tell the students that as a class, they are going to dictate a few sentences—which you will write—explaining why ancient Egypt is considered a civilization. Have the students brainstorm what was learned about this civilization. Model how to write a beginning

sentence telling what the paragraph will be about. For example, “We have learned that there was a civilization in ancient Egypt.” Then ask the students to share sentences explaining how we know that there was a civilization, and record their sentences. Finally, model how to add a concluding sentence, such as, “The civilization of ancient Egypt had many of the same things as other civilizations, such as Mesopotamia.” Read the completed paragraph to the class.

If you have students who are ready to write their own explanation, you may ask them to do so.

# 12

## *Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part II*



### **Lesson Objectives**

#### **Core Content Objectives**

---

Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Identify Tutankhamun as a pharaoh of ancient Egypt
- Explain the significance of Tutankhamun
- Understand that much of what we know about ancient Egypt is because of the work of archaeologists

#### **Language Arts Objectives**

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Ask questions to clarify directions, exercises, and/or classroom routines (L.1.2)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Make predictions (orally or in writing) prior to and during a read-aloud, based on the title, pictures, and/or text heard thus far, and then compare the actual outcomes to predictions (L.1.12)

- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Share writing with others (L.1.29)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

### Core Vocabulary

**priceless, *adj.*** Worth more than any amount of money  
*Example:* My grandmother thinks that my artwork is priceless.  
*Variation(s):* none

**sarcophagus, *n.*** A stone coffin  
*Example:* The mummy was placed in the sarcophagus.  
*Variation(s):* sarcophaguses or sarcophagi

**triumph, *n.*** A great success  
*Example:* The performance was a triumph and everyone was pleased.  
*Variation(s):* triumphs

<i>At a Glance</i>	Exercise	Materials	Minutes
<b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b>	Where Are We?	world map or globe	10
	Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud		
	Purpose for Listening		
<b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b>	Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part II		15
<b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b>	Comprehension Questions		10
	Word Work: Triumph		5
 Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day			
<b>Extensions</b>	Image Card Review	Image Cards 1–14	20
	Class Book	drawing paper, drawing tools	

# 12A

## *Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part II*



### **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

#### **Where Are We?**

---

Choose a different student each day to locate Africa and Egypt on a world map or globe.

#### **Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud**

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Ask the students to share what happened in the previous read-aloud about archaeologist Howard Carter's search for King Tut's tomb. You may want to show the images from the last read-aloud to help with the retelling. Have the students predict what they think Carter found at the end of the last read-aloud. Reread the last sentence of the read-aloud from Lesson 11 if necessary.

#### **Purpose for Listening**

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Tell the students to listen carefully to find out whether or not their predictions are correct.



## Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part II

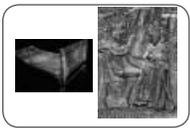
← Show image 12A-1: Carter and others looking at part of door in passageway

After clearing what turned out to be the last of sixteen stairs, Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon saw, carved into the door a few inches lower than Carter had been able to see the first time, the royal sign of Pharaoh Tutankhamun. But Carter also saw signs that part of the door had been opened before, and resealed.<sup>1</sup> After all their work, would they find an empty tomb?<sup>2</sup>

- 1 Who do you think might have opened and resealed the door?
- 2 What do you think? Will the tomb be empty?

For days, the crew worked to clear the rock-filled passageway, anxious to move ahead but afraid of destroying anything important if they moved too fast. Thirty-two feet in, they found another door! This one also had Tutankhamun's seal, and more signs that part of it had been broken open. Carter cut another hole, lit a candle, and looked through. The others, fairly dancing with excitement behind him, waited, but he said nothing—because, as it turned out, he could not speak. He was too overcome. At last Carnarvon demanded, “Can you see anything?” Howard Carter turned slowly, and answered, “Yes—wonderful things!”<sup>3</sup>

- 3 What do you think Carter saw?



← Show image 12A-2: Tut's throne, and other golden objects

What they saw was just a hint of what appeared several days later, when they opened that door and entered by the light of electric torches. As those torches lit up the room beyond, light flashed back at the explorers: reflections in gold! There, shining in the torch light, were a golden throne, a statue of a golden snake, couches made of gold, golden clothing draped over two large, black stone statues, and much more.

4 *Priceless* means worth more than any amount of money. Remember, archaeologists work to find out about other cultures by looking at what the people left behind.

5 A sarcophagus is a stone coffin. A mummy is the body of someone who has died and which has been wrapped in cloth.

6 A triumph is a success.

7 Why do you think there were so many doors?



← **Show image 12A-3: Tut's burial chamber**

Looking around, Carter and Carnarvon saw ancient Egyptian art pieces of great beauty, some unlike any they had ever before seen. These were **priceless** not only for the gold and jewels all over them, but also because they would give new clues to the religious beliefs and way of life of the ancient Egyptians.<sup>4</sup> Then one of Carter's assistants called, "There is another door." Sure enough, there was another, smaller room, filled with more objects. But unlike those in the first room, these were thrown about, as if a robber, feverishly searching through the riches of the place, had been interrupted and had left them behind in a hurry.

But among all these wonders, something was missing: there was no mummy, nor even a mummy case, or **sarcophagus** (sahr-KOF-uh-gus).<sup>5</sup> There was a moment of mixed **triumph** and disappointment.<sup>6</sup> But the surprises of that day were not over. As Carnarvon and Carter re-entered the first room, they glanced at the far wall, and almost at the same moment shouted, "Look!" For in that wall they saw a fourth door.<sup>7</sup>

Already they had found the largest, most valuable collection of ancient Egyptian treasures ever discovered. It would take several months before their team could examine everything and gently move it out. Finally, Howard Carter gently pulled away some stones atop the fourth door, and holding up a light, looked in. At his side, an assistant held up a microphone to carry Carter's words by radio around the world. Here is how Howard Carter later described what he saw beyond the door: "There, within a yard of the doorway, stretching as far as one could see, stood a solid wall of gold! There was no clue as to its meaning. But with the removal of a very few stones, that mystery was solved. We were at the entrance of the actual burial chamber of the king. That which barred our way was the side of an immense, golden shrine built to cover and protect the sarcophagus which held the long-lost pharaoh!"



← **Show image 12A-4: Tut's sarcophagus**

They had found the burial chamber of Tutankhamun almost three thousand, three hundred years after his death. The great cover surrounding his mummy case stood eighteen feet wide, eleven feet long, and nine feet high—all covered in gold! Carved into this were hieroglyphic symbols. The walls of the room were covered with hieroglyphic words and paintings of Tutankhamun and the Egyptian gods.



← **Show image 12A-5: Carter looking at Tut's mummy**

The sarcophagus itself turned out to hold a series of cases, one inside the next, some of wood covered in gold. The innermost case, holding the mummy, would become one of the most famous images in the world. It was made of solid gold. Inside it was the king's mummy, with a mask over his face, made of gold and of shining blue stone.



← **Show image 12A-6: Tut's gold mask**

The discovery of King Tut and his treasures excited people all over the world. Wherever the news spread, people said, “We want to know more about ancient Egypt. We want to learn how we are different from those ancient Egyptians, and how we might be the same.” Nearly a hundred years later, people are still saying it. All this happened because two men, Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon, wondered about someone who had lived more than three thousand years before them: Tutankhamun, Pharaoh of Egypt.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. Were your predictions correct? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)
2. What did Carter and the others find inside the tomb? (many objects made of gold, i.e., throne, statues, couch, King Tut's sarcophagus with mummy)
3. How do you think Carter felt when he finally discovered King Tut's tomb? (excited, thrilled, etc.)
4. The read-aloud is titled "Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh." Why do you think the author chose that title? (Lots of gold objects were found in his tomb; etc.)
5. Why was the discovery of King Tut's tomb so important? (This is how we know much of what we know about ancient Egypt.)
6. Do you think that archaeologists will continue to make new discoveries about ancient Egypt? Why or why not? (Answers may vary.)
7. *Who? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *who*. For example, you could ask, "Who did you hear about in today's read-aloud?" Turn to your neighbor and ask your "who" question. Listen to your neighbor's response. Then your neighbor will ask a new "who" question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

## Word Work: Triumph

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud said, “There was a moment of mixed *triumph* and disappointment,” when Carter first found objects in King Tut’s tomb.
2. Say the word *triumph* with me.
3. A triumph is a success or win.
4. Reading the book all by myself was a triumph.
5. Have you ever had a triumph? Try to use the word *triumph* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “It was a triumph when I . . .”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Directions: I am going to read about an event. If it describes a triumph, say, “That is a triumph.” If it doesn’t describe a triumph, say, “That is not a triumph.”

1. winning a race (That is a triumph.)
2. refusing to do your homework (That is not a triumph.)
3. singing in front of the school (That is a triumph.)
4. memorizing your favorite poem (That is a triumph.)
5. forgetting to brush your teeth (That is not a triumph.)



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 12B

## *Tutankhamun, The Golden Pharaoh, Part II*



### **Extensions**

**20** minutes

#### **Image Card Review**

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Pass out all of the image cards for Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt to various students. Have the students take turns telling all that they can about what is shown on each image card.

#### **Class Book**

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After reviewing what has been learned about Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt, tell the students that they are each going to make a page for a class book about Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt. Brainstorm what the various pages may be about. Have each student draw a picture for one fact or concept. Then have the students write a sentence about the picture. Some students may need to dictate to an adult what will be written. Others may write a complete sentence on their own. Give the students the opportunity to share their pictures and sentences with a partner or the class. Bind the pages to make a book that will become a part of the classroom library for students to read and enjoy again and again.

# PP2

## Pausing Point 2



### **Note to Teacher**

This is the end of the read-alouds about ancient Egypt. You may choose to pause here and spend additional days reviewing, reinforcing, or extending the material taught thus far.

If you do pause, you may have students do any combination of the activities listed below. The activities may be done in any order. You may wish to do one activity on several successive days. You may also choose to do an activity with the whole class or with a small group of students who would benefit from the particular activity.

### **Core Content Objectives**

Students will:

- Locate Egypt on a world map or globe, and identify it as a part of Africa
- Explain that much of Egypt is the Sahara Desert
- Describe key components of a civilization
- Explain the importance of the Nile River and how its floods were important for farming
- Explain the significance of gods in ancient Egypt
- Identify and explain the significance of Hatshepsut as a pharaoh of ancient Egypt
- Identify and explain the significance of pyramids
- Describe how the pyramids were built
- Identify and explain the significance of the Sphinx in ancient Egypt
- Identify Tutankhamun as a pharaoh of ancient Egypt
- Explain the significance of Tutankhamun

- Understand that much of what we know about ancient Egypt is because of the work of archaeologists

## Activities

### Egypt

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On a world map, help students locate and identify the area in which the ancient Egyptians lived. (Egypt, in Africa) Locate the Nile River for students. Have students talk about the environment in which the ancient Egyptians lived and the importance of the Nile for farming, travel, and transportation.

### Mini Farming on the Nile

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**Materials: Fast-growing seeds, two small containers, soil, sand, water**

Plant fast-growing seeds in two containers of a mixture of sand and soil. Label one container “Near the Nile” and the other container “Far from the Nile.” Water only the container labeled “Near the Nile” and have students observe both containers. Be sure that students understand that plants flourished near the Nile because of the water that came from the Nile and that plants farther from the Nile were harder to grow because of the lack of water in the desert.

### Image Review

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You may wish to show the images from any read-aloud again and have students retell the read-aloud using the pictures.

### Image Card Review

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**Materials: Image Cards 7–14**

Hold Image Cards 7–14 in your hand, fanned out like a deck of cards. Ask a student to choose a card but not to show it to anyone else in the class. The student must then perform an action or say a clue about the picture s/he is holding.

## You Were There: Living with the Ancient Egyptians

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Have students pretend that they lived with the ancient Egyptians. Choose an event from Lessons 5–10 and have students describe what they see and hear. For example, you may wish to have students pretend they are traveling down the Nile River with Ahweru, seeing the Great Pyramid and the Sphinx for the first time.

## Key Vocabulary Brainstorming

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### **Materials: Chart paper**

Give students a key vocabulary word, such as *archaeologist*. Have them brainstorm everything that comes to mind when they hear the word. Record their responses on a piece of chart paper for reference.

## Ancient Egyptian Tales of Gods

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You may wish to share other stories about the gods of ancient Egypt, such as Isis, Osiris, and Horus to reinforce the polytheist beliefs of the culture. You should be able to find these stories in the library or on the internet.

## Make Your Own Mummy

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### **Materials: Dolls or action figures and toilet paper**

You may choose to make a station where students can make mummies with toilet paper and dolls. Be sure that students explain what they are doing and why—relating this activity back to the ancient Egyptian practice.

## Chocolate Chip Archaeologists

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### **Materials: Chocolate chip cookies and toothpicks (one of each per student)**

Remind the students that archaeologists are scientists who study the ruins and remains of a society to learn more about that society. Tell students that they are going to be archaeologists for the day. Explain to the students that they should pretend the chocolate chips in the cookies are the ruins of the ancient Egyptian society. In order to learn more about the society, they will have to dig up the ruins (chocolate chips) with a toothpick. Tell students that they

should be very careful not to break or chip the chocolate chips as they dig them out.

### **Ancient Egyptian Ruins**

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To learn more about the ancient Egyptian ruins, use an internet search to find pictures and descriptions of ancient Egyptian archaeological sites.

### **Domain-Related Trade Book or Student Choice**

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Read an additional trade book to review a particular event; refer to the books listed in the domain introduction. You may also choose to have students select a read-aloud to be heard again.

## ***Disclaimer: Three World Religions***

In the coverage of the domain thus far, we have introduced the concept of religion (polytheism) in Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt as one of the major shaping forces of those civilizations. The end of this domain (Lessons 13–16) is an introduction to three major world religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The first read-aloud on religion acts as an introduction for the next three and connects the knowledge presented to what students have already learned about the early civilizations of Mesopotamia and Egypt.

We recommend that first grade teachers discuss whether or not to cover this section of the domain with their school administrator. We acknowledge that this is completely a school decision. We have used vignettes in the lessons to present facts so it is clear that we are not proselytizing. That said, we would like to explain our rationale for including these lessons.

Because religion has been such a central force in shaping the development of civilizations, Core Knowledge introduces students at various grade levels to major world religions as part of their study of world history. This will help provide students a basic vocabulary for understanding many events and ideas in history. The curriculum in first grade focuses on teaching students very basic similarities and differences among religions and fostering an understanding and respect for those similarities and differences. The goal is to familiarize students with major ideas and facts in world history; it is not to proselytize. The tone should be one of respect and balance when teaching these topics. Should questions about truth and rightness come up in discussion, an appropriate answer is: People of different faiths believe different things to be true. The best people to answer your questions are your family and the adults at home.

We advise Core Knowledge teachers to inform parents and caregivers in advance of covering these topics so they understand that teachers are teaching facts and not preaching. We have

included a parent letter (Instructional Master 13B-1) for your convenience that you may use. We have attempted to explain that students need to have a basic understanding of religion in order to make sense of historical events covered in later grades. (For example: You can't talk about the Middle Ages without discussing the importance of the Christian Church. You can't teach about the Crusades without discussing the development of Islam.) To fully understand significant ideas and events in world history, it is important to be familiar with various religions. It is imperative to look at the curriculum as a whole to understand that the religions covered are not being singled out, but that students will be introduced to other religions (polytheistic religions as part of Early American Civilizations in Grade 1; Hinduism and Buddhism as part of Early Asian Civilizations in Grade 2; etc.) throughout the curriculum.

In summary, the Core Knowledge sequence of historical topics is very comprehensive and very balanced, presenting historical knowledge from around the world beginning in ancient times and culminating in modern-day history. It would be an error to evaluate the coverage of the three religions in this domain as completely comprehensive without understanding how they fit into the entire Core Knowledge curriculum. We hope the inclusion of these lessons will better enable students to make connections and reflect upon the historical content highlighted in this domain.

# 13

## Three World Religions



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Identify Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as major monotheistic world religions
- Locate Jerusalem, Israel and the area known as the Middle East on a map
- Define monotheism as the belief in one God
- Identify the Western Wall (or the Wailing Wall) as associated with Judaism, the church of the Holy Sepulchre with Christianity, and the Dome of the Rock with Islam

#### Language Arts Objectives

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- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Describe illustrations (orally or in writing) (L.1.13)

- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)
- With assistance, categorize and organize facts and information within a given domain (L.1.38)

## Core Vocabulary

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**Note:** The definitions of the three religions are generic because this is the introductory lesson to the religions. Students will be able to fill in additional details as you cover the rest of the lessons in this domain.

**Christianity, n.** The religion of the Christians; one of the three major world religions

*Example:* Christianity was spread throughout the world after the life of Jesus Christ.

*Variation(s):* none

**faithful, adj.** Having a strong belief in something or someone

*Example:* Thomas was faithful to his grandfather, reading to him every day.

*Variation(s):* none

**shrine, n.** A sacred or holy place of worship

*Example:* The Dome of the Rock is an Islamic shrine in Jerusalem famous for its architecture.

*Variation(s):* shrines

**Islam, n.** The religion of the Muslims; one of the three major world religions

*Example:* Muhammad’s teachings form the basis of Islam.

*Variation(s):* none

**Judaism, n.** The religion of the Jews; one of the three major world religions

*Example:* Judaism is the oldest of the three major religions we are learning about today.

*Variation(s):* none

<i><b>At a Glance</b></i>	<b>Exercise</b>	<b>Materials</b>	<b>Minutes</b>
<i><b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>		10
	<b>Personal Connections</b>	chart paper, markers	
	<b>Where Are We?</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<i><b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Three World Religions</b>		15
<i><b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b></i>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Faithful</b>	drawing paper, drawing tools	5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<i><b>Extensions</b></i>	<b>Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions</b>	Instructional Master 13B-2 (optional) chart paper, markers	20
<i><b>Take-Home Material</b></i>	<b>Parent Letter</b>	Instructional Master 13B-1	

# 13A

## Three World Religions



### Introducing the Read-Aloud

10 minutes

#### What Have We Already Learned?

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Tell students they are going to learn more about religion in order to understand historical events. Ask them if they are familiar with the term *religion*. Explain that *religion* refers to the belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or many gods. Explain that religions began a very long time ago. Say: You have been studying about ancient peoples in the Middle East. You have learned about Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt. Can you share something you've learned about the religions of those civilizations? (Take student responses; try to get students to describe that ancient peoples of this region worshiped many gods and goddesses; review the term *polytheism*.)

Explain that some religions are not polytheistic, but that they are *monotheistic*. Ask: Who knows or can guess the meaning of the word part *mono*? (*Mono* means *one*.) Explain that they are going to be learning about three monotheistic religions over the next few days, which have a belief in only one God.

#### Personal Connections

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If students know the name of a religious group, ask them to share it. Accept all answers, even if students identify only one particular sect or denomination of the religion. (Make a list on a chart.) Tell students that there are many different religions in the world today.

#### Where Are We?

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Using a map or globe, show students the Middle East. Point out the locations of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt that they have already learned. Tell them that they will be learning about three different religions and that all three began in the Middle East.

These three religions have many followers around the world today.

## **Purpose for Listening**

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Tell students to listen carefully to find out the names of three major religions in the world today.



## Three World Religions

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← Show image 13A-1: Sky

Have you ever wondered how the universe came to be? Or how the stars shine at night? Or what makes a rainbow? Perhaps you've wondered what causes a thunderstorm or an earthquake. Or why the earth has more water than land. Well, you are not alone. Lots of people have wondered about these same things for thousands of years.



← Show image 13A-2: Gods and goddesses of Mesopotamia

Long ago, people could not search for answers to their questions on the Internet. They sought answers from the natural world around them. They were amazed by the power of the sun and moon and stars. They believed the animals that provided them with food were sacred, or holy, and worshipped them.

The ancient Mesopotamians and Egyptians worshiped many gods and goddesses whom they believed controlled everything that happened on Earth. They made offerings to the gods, and held festivals and ceremonies in their honor.

People began following religions long, long ago. People asked questions: Who, what, when, where, and how did this and that happen? Their explanations of all the mysteries of the universe came in stories that they told one another, long before writing was ever invented.



← Show image 13A-3: Three major religions

Not everyone in ancient times had the same beliefs or religions. The same is true today. There are many different religious beliefs, many different religions.<sup>1</sup>

You are going to learn a little bit about three religions being practiced in the world today. The oldest of the three religions that you will learn about is called **Judaism**.<sup>2</sup> The second one is called

1 (Refer back to the chart paper where you recorded students' previous responses, and ask if anyone has another that they want to add to the list.)

2 (Stop briefly after each name, citing its inclusion on the chart or adding it if it is not there.)

**Christianity.** And the third religion is called **Islam.** All three of these religions had their beginnings in an area of the world known as the Middle East.



← **Show image 13A-4: Map of Middle East, highlighting Jerusalem**

- 3 (Point to Jerusalem on the map. Remind students about the two ancient civilizations, Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt, that they already studied. Review the location of these two civilizations.)

In fact, all three religions call the city of Jerusalem a holy or sacred city.<sup>3</sup>



← **Show image 13A-5: The Western Wall**<sup>4</sup>

- 4 What do you see in this picture?

Jews, the name of the people who practice Judaism, worship at the Western Wall. This is the only remaining support wall that was part of the ancient temple in Jerusalem, on the western side of the Temple Mount. That is why it is called “the Western Wall.” Because this site is so holy to Jews, people praying there sometimes get very emotional as they worship, leading some people to refer to this wall by its nickname, “the Wailing Wall.”<sup>5</sup>

- 5 *Wailing* means crying or sobbing.



← **Show image 13A-6: Church of the Holy Sepulchre**<sup>6</sup>

- 6 What things catch your eye about this building?  
7 or the main sacred place of worship for Christians

Christians, people who practice Christianity, worship at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This church is the main Christian **shrine** in Jerusalem.<sup>7</sup>



← **Show image 13A-7: Dome of the Rock**<sup>8</sup>

- 8 What things catch your eye about this building?

Muslims, people who practice Islam, worship at the Dome of the Rock. Made of marble and tile, this is the oldest complete example of an Islamic building still standing.

- 9 (Stop here to review the names of the three major religions with students. Tell them not to worry about the names of the practitioners right now. They will learn those names later.)

Jews, Christians, and Muslims worship in many other places around the world as well besides these three holy shrines in Jerusalem.<sup>9</sup>



← **Show image 13A-8: Three major religions**

10 So these people were polytheistic, like the Egyptians and Mesopotamians. Do you remember what *poly* means?

11 Why do you think some people call Canaan “the promised land”?

12 Why do you think this God was called the “God of Abraham”?

So, how did these religions begin and why do all three consider the city of Jerusalem to be a holy city? Well, about four thousand years ago in a land called Ur, there lived a man by the name of Abraham. The people of Ur worshiped many different gods—one for the sun, one for the moon, one for the stars, and so on.<sup>10</sup> But Abraham had a different belief, that there was only one God.

Stories tell us that this one all-powerful God spoke to Abraham, promising to lead him out of Ur. Abraham and his wife Sarah packed their things and traveled far, far away to a place called Canaan in ancient times. Some people refer to Canaan as “the promised land.”<sup>11</sup> Today, it is known as the country of Israel, which is where the holy city of Jerusalem is located. It was here that Abraham remained **faithful** to his one God. This God is often called the God of Abraham.<sup>12</sup>

All three religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—are monotheistic faiths, faiths that believe in one God. Over the next few days, you will learn important differences about each of these world religions. It is important to remember that all three religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—started long ago in the Middle East. Religions, sets of beliefs that help people make sense of their universe, have influenced the laws and customs of people around the world for many years.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. Can anyone name all three world religions named in today's read-aloud? (Judaism, Christianity, Islam)
2. People have always wondered and asked questions about the universe and the world in which they lived. How did people long ago, before writing was even invented, answer these questions? (They told stories.)
3. The early Egyptians, and other ancient people, believed that many gods made things work. They worshiped all of them. What was different about Abraham? (He worshiped only one God.)
4. What does it mean if a religion is *monotheistic*? (It centers around a belief in one and only one God.)
5. What is the name of the city in the Middle East considered to be a holy city by all three religions we learned about today? (Jerusalem)



← Show image 13A-5: The Western Wall



← Show image 13A-6: Church of the Holy Sepulchre



← Show image 13A-7: Dome of the Rock

6. If you were to visit the holy city of Jerusalem, which place would you like to visit most—the Wailing Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, or the Dome of the Rock? Why? (Answers may vary.)
7. *What? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *what*. For example, you could ask, “What did you learn about in today’s read-aloud?” Turn to your neighbor and ask your “what” question. Listen to your neighbor’s response. Then your neighbor will ask a new “what” question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

## Word Work: Faithful

(5 minutes)

1. In the read-aloud today, you heard that Abraham remained *faithful* to one God.
2. Say the word *faithful* with me.
3. *Faithful* means to have a strong belief in something or someone.
4. Abraham was faithful to one God, meaning that he believed in just that one God instead of many gods. You can show that you are faithful, that you believe in something or someone, by serving them. For example, I am faithful to my flowers because I water them every week. I believe in them and I know that they need my help in order to live and grow strong.
5. Tell about being faithful to something or someone in your life. Try to use the word *faithful* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "I am faithful to my dog because I feed him every day.")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Use a *Drawing and Writing* activity for follow-up. Have students draw a picture of a faithful person, either in worship or using one of their examples from the word work. Have students write a sentence or two, including the word *faithful* to accompany their drawings.



### Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day

# 13B

## Three World Religions



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions (Instructional Master 13B-2, optional)

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On chart paper, create a three-column chart like the one shown on the next page. Label the columns Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Fill in the bolded headers in the left-hand column, but leave the rest of the chart blank. You will fill that in with the students over the next several days as the material is presented to them in the read-alouds.

Explain that you are going to use this chart to talk about the next three read-alouds. Tell them that you are going to write down what they say on the chart, but that they are not expected to be able to read what you write because they are still learning all the rules for decoding. Emphasize that you are writing what they say so that you don't forget, and tell them that you will read the words to them.

For today's purposes, first present them with the structure of the chart so that they have an idea of what they will be learning in the subsequent lessons. Explain that Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are alike in one way. Ask students to help you fill out the first row for each religion (Number of Gods). Then, introduce the remaining characteristics along the vertical axis, explaining that the three religions are different in many ways. Finally, ask students to help you fill out the second row for each religion (Name of Main Shrine in Jerusalem). Tell them that they will help you fill in the rest of the chart as they learn more about each religion in the coming lessons.

If your students are able, you may want to have them fill in their own charts using Instructional Master 13B-2.

	JUDAISM	CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
NUMBER OF GODS	<b>one</b>	<b>one</b>	<b>one</b>
NAME OF MAIN SHRINE IN JERUSALEM	<b>The Western Wall or The Wailing Wall</b>	<b>Church of the Holy Sepulchre</b>	<b>Dome of the Rock</b>
NAME OF HOLY FIGURE	Moses	Jesus Christ	Muhammad
NAME OF FOLLOWERS	Jews	Christians	Muslims
SYMBOL OF FAITH	Star of David	Cross	Crescent Moon and Star
BUILDING OF WORSHIP	synagogue/temple	church/chapel/cathedral	mosque
WORSHIP LEADER	rabbi	priest/pastor/minister	imam
NAME OF HOLY BOOK	Torah	Bible	Qur'an
IMPORTANT HOLIDAY	Passover	Easter, Christmas	Ramadan
INTERESTING FACT	Answers may vary.	Answers may vary.	Answers may vary.

Note: The parts of the chart that will be filled out in this lesson are shown in bold.

### Parent Letter

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Send home Instructional Master 13B-1.

# 14

## Judaism



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Identify Judaism as a monotheistic religion
- Identify the Hebrews as the ancient people who were descendants of Abraham
- Identify that followers of Judaism are called Jews and that the term Jewish is used to describe practices or objects associated with Judaism
- Identify Moses as a holy figure and teacher who long ago led the Jews out of Egypt
- Understand that the story of the Exodus is celebrated each year as a holiday known as Passover with a special service and meal called a Seder
- Understand that Moses received the Ten Commandments from God and that they told the people how to behave or live their life
- Demonstrate familiarity with other important Jewish holidays such as Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Chanukah
- Recognize the Star of David as a six-pointed star and a symbol of Judaism
- Identify the Torah as an important part of the Hebrew scriptures
- Identify that a Jewish house of worship is called a synagogue or temple

## Language Arts Objectives

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Describe illustrations (orally or in writing) (L.1.13)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)

- With assistance, categorize and organize facts and information within a given domain (L.1.38)

## Core Vocabulary

**Hebrew, n.** A tribe of people from whom the Jews are descended; the language spoken in Israel

*Example:* Moses led the Hebrew people out of Egypt into Canaan.

*Variation(s):* Hebrews

**Jew, n.** A member of the Jewish faith

*Example:* Moses asked the Egyptian pharaoh to free the Jews.

*Variation(s):* Jews

**Jewish, adj.** Belonging to or related to the practice of Judaism

*Example:* Chanukah is a Jewish holiday that is celebrated during the same time of year as Christmas.

*Variation(s):* none

**prophet, n.** A leader in a religion who teaches other people

*Example:* Moses was the Jewish prophet who led his people to freedom.

*Variation(s):* prophets

**rabbi, n.** A Jewish religious leader, often serving a synagogue

*Example:* My rabbi read to us from the Torah on Saturday, our Sabbath.

*Variation(s):* rabbis

**synagogue, n.** A Jewish place of worship

*Example:* Jews often go to the synagogue to pray.

*Variation(s):* synagogues

<i>At a Glance</i>	Exercise	Materials	Minutes
<b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b>	Essential Background Information or Terms		10
	Purpose for Listening		
<b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b>	Judaism	world map	15
<b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b>	Comprehension Questions		10
	Word Work: Synagogue		5
 Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day			
<b>Extensions</b>	Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions	Instructional Master 13B-2 (optional) chart, markers	20
	Domain-Related Trade Book	trade book	

# 14A *Judaism*



## **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

### **Essential Background Information or Terms**

---

You may wish to start out with a review of the previous lesson and what you have filled in thus far on the chart about the three major religions.

Remind students that Abraham was a man who lived thousands of years ago. Remind them that other people living during this time worshiped many different gods and goddesses. Review the story of Abraham covered in the previous read-aloud and how Abraham promised to worship *one* God alone instead of many different gods and was led to a better place. Ask: Who remembers where Abraham journeyed to when he left the land of Ur? (Canaan) Reiterate that Abraham worshiped only *one* God. Abraham believed that God would make him the father of many nations, and Abraham became the first Jew. We call the faith that Jewish people follow *Judaism*.

Tell students that many religions have prophets. Prophets are leaders in a religion who teach other people. Their teachings are often about religion. Today, students will learn a little bit about the Jewish people and their faith, and how a man, one of the Jewish prophets, helped lead the Jewish people out of slavery many years ago.

### **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell students to listen to find out the name of the prophet who freed the Jewish people from slavery and why that was important.



## Judaism

### ← Show image 14A-1: Miriam

Hi, I'm Miriam. I am a **Jew**. **Jewish** people practice a religion called Judaism. Judaism began long ago with the **Hebrew** people, descendants of Abraham. You've already heard about Abraham. God made a covenant, or agreement, with Abraham. In this covenant, God promised to take care of Abraham and his descendants and Abraham promised to worship God alone instead of following the common practice of worshiping many different gods.<sup>1</sup>

Long after Abraham died, the Hebrews had to leave the "Promised Land" of Canaan because there was not enough food to eat. They moved to neighboring Egypt where they were made to work as slaves for the king, or pharaoh, of Egypt.<sup>2</sup>

- 1 Abraham left the land of Ur. Who remembers where he went to live?
- 2 (Using a world map, point to the area known as Israel and then to Egypt. Explain that the Hebrews went from Canaan to Egypt to live and they worked as slaves for the pharaoh.) Slaves are made to work for someone without pay or freedom.



### ← Show image 14A-2: Moses<sup>3</sup>

After many years, God sent a **prophet**<sup>4</sup> named Moses to help free the Hebrew people and lead them back to Canaan, "the promised land."<sup>5</sup>

- 3 What do you see in this picture? (Explain that this is a sculpture of Moses done by a famous artist named Michelangelo.)
- 4 or one who teaches others about religion
- 5 Who remembers why Canaan was called "the promised land"?



### ← Show image 14A-3: Moses and the parting of the Red Sea<sup>6</sup>

Moses asked the Egyptian pharaoh to free the Jews from slavery, but the pharaoh refused. God punished the pharaoh for enslaving the Jewish people.<sup>7</sup> Finally, the pharaoh let the Jewish slaves leave Egypt and return to Canaan. Moses led them to freedom by obeying God who parted or pushed back the waters of the Red Sea so the Jews could walk through to Canaan. This journey out of Egypt is called the Exodus.<sup>8</sup>

- 6 This is someone's depiction of what Moses did during the Exodus story. Listen to see what Moses did.
- 7 or for making them slaves
- 8 (Using a world map, point to Egypt, the Red Sea, and then to Israel (Canaan). Explain that the Jews led by Moses left their life of slavery in Egypt and went back to "the promised land" of Canaan.)



← **Show image 14A-4: Miriam**

Today I am celebrating the holiday of Pesach [PAY-sock], or Passover, with my family. It is one of our most important Jewish holidays. Passover is when we celebrate the freedom of our people from slavery in Egypt and their journey back to Canaan. I am going to the **synagogue** to hear the story of Moses once again. Won't you come along?



← **Show image 14A-5: Synagogue or temple**

This is my synagogue or temple. You can tell it apart from other houses of worship because it has the Star of David on it. King David was one of our finest kings and his six-pointed star has become a symbol of the Jewish faith. Let's go in!



← **Show image 14A-6: Synagogue entrance bearing the Star of David**<sup>9</sup>

Inside, I will introduce you to my uncle, the **rabbi**. A rabbi is a religious leader for the Jewish faith. He will read from the Torah, a beautiful handwritten scroll.

9 What do you see in the entrance?



← **Show image 14A-7: Torah scroll**<sup>10</sup>

The Torah refers to all of the Hebrew scriptures, but most often when Jews say, "Torah," they mean the first five books that are mostly about Moses.

10 This is a Torah scroll. A scroll unrolls sort of like a paper towel roll.



← **Show image 14A-8: Rabbi in the synagogue**

There's my uncle. We are a little bit late. He has already begun reading the story. He reads in Hebrew, the ancient language of the Jewish people.



← **Show image 14A-9: Miriam's family around a Seder meal**

Tonight, as part of our celebration, we will tell the Exodus story. Would you like to join my family at our Seder? Seder is the name of our special Passover dinner. It's a lot like our weekly Shabbat [sha-BAHT] or Sabbath, our holy day of rest on Saturday when the whole family gathers together for a big, special meal. The youngest person in the room who can speak is the one who

begins the Seder by asking, “Why is this night different from all other nights?”



← **Show image 14A-10: Seder plate**

At a Seder, the food we eat is very important. Each food put on the plate has a special meaning to help us remember the story of Moses and the Hebrews escaping from Egypt.



← **Show image 14A-11: Matzoh**

Passover lasts for one week and each day we eat matzoh, or *flat* bread.<sup>11</sup> That is because when the Jews fled Egypt so quickly, they did not have time to wait for their bread to rise.<sup>12</sup> All they had to eat was flat bread. See what I mean about each food at our Seder having a special meaning?

Passover is a really important holiday for my people, but we have lots of other fun holidays as well.

11 (Point to the illustration.)

12 (Explain to students that when you make bread, you normally have to wait for it to rise before you can put it in the oven and bake it. This is what makes bread round and fluffy. But, the Jews did not have enough time to let the bread rise, so the bread was baked flat.)



← **Show image 14A-12: Honey and apple at Rosh Hashanah**<sup>13</sup>

We also celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, which happens during late summer or autumn. We eat sweet foods such as apples and honey to represent our wish for a sweet year ahead. That is when we thank God for the creation of the world.<sup>14</sup>

13 What do you see in this picture?

14 What do you think it means to wish for a sweet year?



← **Show image 14A-13: Menorah**<sup>15</sup>

During another Jewish holiday called Chanukah [HAH-noo-kuh], meaning the Festival of Lights, Jews all around the world light nine-branched candlesticks, called menorahs. Jews light the menorahs to remember the past, a time when they rebelled against the rulers who had conquered them. These rulers told the Jews that they could no longer pray to God. The story goes that when the Jews went to the temple, they only found a small jar of oil with which to relight the lamp; however, the oil lasted miraculously for eight days until they were able to get more.

15 What do you see in this picture?  
(Have students count the candles and then point out the Star of David.)



16 our bad behavior

17 (Point to the illustration.)



18 *Shalom* is a word in Hebrew.

← **Show image 14A-14: The Ten Commandments**

Yom Kippur is a time when we ask God to forgive our sins.<sup>16</sup> We try to live our lives by the Ten Commandments,<sup>17</sup> special laws given to Moses by God. They tell us that there is only one God and that we are to respect Him by treating others respectfully.

← **Show image 14A-15: Miriam**

Shalom [sha-LOHM].<sup>18</sup> Peace to you.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

**15** minutes

### Comprehension Questions

**(10** minutes)

1. Miriam said that she practices a religion called Judaism. What are the people who practice Judaism called? (Jews)
2. The descendants of Abraham were known at first as Hebrews, and later as Jews. How many gods did Abraham and the Hebrews/Jews worship? (only one God)
3. What was the name of the Jewish prophet or teacher who helped free the Jewish people? (Moses)
4. Moses led the Jewish people out of Egypt to Canaan, “the promised land.” This is known as the story of the Exodus which happened long ago in ancient times. Why were the Jewish people unhappy in Egypt? (The pharaoh, or king, had made them slaves.)
5. The read-aloud tells us that every year at Passover, the rabbi reads the same story from the Torah. It is the story of the Exodus from Egypt. Why do you think it is important for the Jewish people to remember this story? (Answers may vary.)
6. What is the symbol of the Jewish religion? (the star of David)
7. What is the Jewish house of worship called? (synagogue or temple)

8. Do the Jewish people celebrate any other holidays besides Passover? (yes) Can you name any of them? (Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, Yom Kippur, etc.)
9. Miriam mentions that the Jewish Sabbath, or day of rest, is on what day of the week? (Saturday)
10. Moses received the Ten Commandments from God. The commandments gave Moses and his people rules for living. How many gods did The Ten Commandments say to worship? (only one God)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

11. *Think Pair Share:* If you were going to write ten commandments, or rules for how people should live, what would one of your commandments be? (Answers may vary. Compare them to classroom rules.)

### **Word Work: Synagogue**

(5 minutes)

1. Miriam invited you to go to the *synagogue* with her.
2. Say the word *synagogue* with me.
3. A synagogue is a place of worship for the Jewish people.
4. A synagogue, also called a temple, is where Jewish people go to pray.
5. Have you ever been to a synagogue or another place of worship that is similar to a synagogue? Tell about it. Try to use the word *synagogue* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "I went to my friend's synagogue with her.")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Use a *Making Choices* activity for follow-up. Tell students that you are going to read some activities or symbols that may or may not belong inside a synagogue. Tell them to say, "That could happen in a synagogue," or "That could not happen in a synagogue."

1. The rabbi read from the holy book called the Torah. (That could happen in a synagogue.)
2. Loud cheers were heard as the basketball players took their places on the court. (That could not happen in a synagogue.)
3. The Jews bowed their heads in prayer. (That could happen in a synagogue.)
4. The Star of David was hung in the front of the building. (That could happen in a synagogue.)
5. Elephants and tigers arrived for the spectacular circus performance. (That could not happen in a synagogue.)



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 14B

## Judaism



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions (Instructional Master 13B-2, optional)

Display the incomplete three-column chart like the one shown below.

Explain to students that you are going to use this chart to talk about today's read-aloud. Tell them that you are going to write down what they say on the chart, but that they are not expected to be able to read what you write because they are still learning all the rules for decoding. Emphasize that you are writing what they say so that you don't forget, and tell them that you will read the words to them.

Ask students to help you in filling in the spaces under the Judaism column. If students have trouble recalling facts, you may wish to use images from the Flip Book to jog their memory. If your students are able, you may want to have them continue filling in their own charts using Instructional Master 13B-2.

	JUDAISM	CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
NUMBER OF GODS	one	one	one
NAME OF MAIN SHRINE IN JERUSALEM	The Western Wall or The Wailing Wall	Church of the Holy Sepulchre	Dome of the Rock
NAME OF KEY PROPHET	Moses	Jesus Christ	Muhammad
NAME OF FOLLOWERS	Jews	Christians	Muslims
SYMBOL OF FAITH	Star of David	Cross	Crescent Moon and Star
BUILDING OF WORSHIP	synagogue/temple	church/chapel/cathedral	mosque
WORSHIP LEADER	rabbi	priest/pastor/minister	imam
NAME OF HOLY BOOK	Torah	Bible	Qur'an
IMPORTANT HOLIDAY	Passover	Easter, Christmas	Ramadan
INTERESTING FACT	Answers may vary.	Answers may vary.	Answers may vary.

## Domain-Related Trade Book

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Refer to the list of recommended trade books in the domain introduction at the front of this teacher’s guide, and choose a book about Judaism to read aloud to the class. As you read, use the same strategies that you have been using when reading the read-aloud selections in this anthology—pause and ask occasional questions; rapidly clarify critical vocabulary within the context of the read-aloud; etc. After you finish reading the trade book aloud, lead students in a discussion as to how the story or information in this book relates to the read-aloud in this lesson.

# 15

## Christianity



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Identify Christianity as a monotheistic religion
- Understand that the religion of Christianity developed after Judaism
- Identify that followers of Christianity are called Christians
- Identify that Christians believe Jesus Christ to be the Messiah and the son of God
- Demonstrate familiarity with the story of Jesus's life
- Understand that Easter celebrates Jesus's resurrection after his crucifixion
- Demonstrate familiarity with other important Christian holidays, such as Christmas which celebrates Jesus's birth
- Recognize that both Christians and Jews follow the Ten Commandments
- Recognize the cross as a symbol of Christianity
- Identify the Bible as the Christian holy book
- Identify that a Christian house of worship is called a church

#### Language Arts Objectives

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Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say "excuse me" or "please," etc. (L.1.1)

- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)
- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Describe illustrations (orally or in writing) (L.1.13)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)
- With assistance, categorize and organize facts and information within a given domain (L.1.38)

## Core Vocabulary

**Christian, n.** Someone whose religion follows the teachings of Jesus Christ

*Example:* A Christian believes that Jesus Christ is the son of God.

*Variation(s):* Christians

**church, n.** A public house of worship for the Christian faith

*Example:* My aunt was married in the church last Sunday.

*Variation(s):* churches

**eternal, adj.** Lasting forever; never-ending

*Example:* Some people believe that life is eternal and will never end.

*Variation(s):* none

**Messiah, n.** A savior, predicted by ancient Hebrews, and believed by Christians to be Jesus Christ

*Example:* There are many songs about the Messiah in Christian hymn books.

*Variation(s):* none

**miracle, n.** An often unexpected and always extraordinary, nearly unbelievable event, usually thought to be brought about by God

*Example:* In the New Testament, I read about a miracle performed by Jesus Christ.

*Variation(s):* miracles

<i>At a Glance</i>	Exercise	Materials	Minutes
<b>Introducing the Read-Aloud</b>	<b>What Have We Already Learned?</b>	Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions	10
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b>Presenting the Read-Aloud</b>	<b>Christianity</b>		15
<b>Discussing the Read-Aloud</b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Miracle</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b>Extensions</b>	<b>Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions</b>	Instructional Master 13B-2 (optional) chart, markers	20
	<b>Domain-Related Trade Book</b>	trade book	

# 15A *Christianity*



## **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

### **What Have We Already Learned?**

---

You may wish to start out with a review of the previous lesson and what you have filled in thus far on the chart about the three major religions, during the extensions of earlier lessons.

Remind students that Judaism is a religion that practices the belief in one God. Ask if they recall a word used to describe belief in one God. (monotheistic; monotheism) Ask: What is the word we learned to describe the belief in many gods? (polytheistic; polytheism) Then, ask them to name the prophet that led the Jewish people out of Egypt to “the promised land”? (Moses) Remind them that a prophet is a leader in a religion who teaches other people.

Tell them that they are going to learn about another monotheistic religion today—a religion that also has a holy figure. Ask them if anyone knows the name of the key Christian holy figure or leader. (Jesus Christ)

### **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell students that Christians believe Jesus Christ is more than just a prophet. Tell them to listen to find out who Christians believe Jesus Christ to be.



1 a prophet who lived long ago

## Christianity

---

### ← Show image 15A-1: Peter

Today is Easter, the most important holiday in Christianity. My name is Peter and I am a **Christian**, a follower of Jesus Christ.<sup>1</sup> Miriam is my good friend. I know that she has already told you a little bit about her religion, Judaism. Well, Christianity grew out of Judaism. In fact, Jesus was a Jew.



### ← Show image 15A-2: Moses

Remember how Moses freed the Jews and led them back to “the promised land” of Canaan, or Israel? Well, long after that the Jews again struggled to be free. Their land had been conquered and ruled by Roman soldiers. The Jews were no longer free. They prayed for a **Messiah**, or savior, who would bring peace and justice to the world. They thought this would include freedom from Roman rule. It was at this time that Jesus Christ was born. Some Jews believed that Jesus was the Messiah for whom they prayed.<sup>2</sup>

2 So, what does *Messiah* mean?



3 Christians believe Jesus Christ is more than just a prophet. What do Christians also believe him to be?

### ← Show image 15A-3: Jesus Christ, born to Mary and Joseph in a manger

Like Moses, Jesus was a holy leader and a special teacher. Christians today believe Jesus is the Messiah, sent to save the people here on Earth. Christians also believe that Jesus is the son of God.<sup>3</sup>



### ← Show image 15A-4: Jesus Christ preaching

Jesus spent long hours teaching people about God’s love for them and instructing them to be kind to one another. Jesus seemed to care about everybody—the rich and the poor, the healthy and the sick, the good and the bad. He became so popular with the people that some began to call him the king of the Jews.

The Bible tells us on the third day after Jesus died, he came back to life and rose from the dead. Christians believe that Jesus died so that his followers might also experience life after death

4 A miracle is an extraordinary and nearly unbelievable event, usually thought to be brought about by God.



5 (Point to the cross in the illustration.)



6 or everlasting life



7 (Point to the lilies in the picture.)

8 *Minister, priest, and pastor* are different names for Christian church leaders.

9 (Point to the Bible in the picture.)

10 Who remembers what the Hebrew scriptures are called?

11 So, the Christian Bible combines what Christians call the Old Testament, which is the Hebrew Torah, and the New Testament, which is about Jesus and his followers.

and forgiveness for their sins or wrongdoings. This **miracle** is why Christians all around the world celebrate Easter.<sup>4</sup>

So, now that you know why today is so special, come along to **church** with me. I have some things I'd like to show you.

← **Show image 15A-5: Church**

This is my church. Some of my friends go to a chapel, which is a small church, and others go to a great big cathedral. You could say my church is medium-sized. You can tell it is a Christian church because of the cross on the top.<sup>5</sup>

← **Show image 15A-6: Cross**

The cross is an important symbol of the Christian faith.

← **Show image 15A-7: Cross with purple drape**

During Holy Week, the week before Easter, the cross is draped in a purple cloth to remember the miracle. Today, I will place flowers on the cross as a symbol of rebirth and **eternal** life.<sup>6</sup>

← **Show image 15A-8: Bible with lilies**

Let's go inside. The church is full of Easter Lilies today.<sup>7</sup> The minister, priest, or pastor gives a sermon, or talk, every Sunday.<sup>8</sup> He reads from the Bible, our holy book.<sup>9</sup> Part of our Bible, the Old Testament, contains the same books of Jewish scriptures.<sup>10</sup> But today's readings will come from the New Testament. It is full of stories about the life of Jesus, including today's story of the Resurrection, Christ's rising from the dead and coming back to life.<sup>11</sup> After we sing some special Easter songs and hymns, musicians with big brass instruments will play and join in with their loud and joyous praise!



← **Show image 15A-9: Reenactment of nativity scene**

Christians also celebrate the birth of Jesus. That day is called Christmas day, which is the twenty-fifth of December. Christians sometimes act out the nativity scene when the baby Jesus was born in a manger.<sup>12</sup>

12 (Point to the illustration.)



← **Show image 15A-10: Three Wise Men**

At Christmas, Christians also give presents to one another, just as the three wise men who visited the baby Jesus when he was born gave him presents over two thousand years ago. There are other special days for Christians, but the two biggest celebrations by far are Christmas and Easter.



← **Show image 15A-11: Peter**

After Jesus rose from the dead and then went to heaven, his disciples, or followers, continued to spread his teachings to others. Today, Christianity is widely practiced around the world. There are many different groups of Christians, but they share many of the same practices, or ways of doing things. Most practicing Christians go to church on Sunday morning, their day of rest, where they meet together to pray and sing songs. Christians also try to live their lives by the Ten Commandments.<sup>13</sup> Finally, Christians believe that Jesus Christ is God's only son and the Messiah, our savior. *Pacem* (PAH- chem).<sup>14</sup> Peace be with you.

13 Who remembers what the Ten Commandments are?

14 *Pacem* is a word in Latin.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. What is the name given to people who practice Christianity and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ? (Christians)
2. Who do Christians believe Jesus Christ to be? (the son of God; the Messiah or savior)
3. Which faith came first, Christianity or Judaism? (Judaism; Christianity grew out of Judaism.)
4. What is the symbol of the Christian religion? (a cross)
5. On Easter, Christians celebrate a Christian miracle. What is that? (Christ's coming back to life after he died)
6. The Jewish house of worship is called a synagogue. What is the Christian house of worship called? (church)
7. The read-aloud tells us that the Christian holy book contains the Old Testament (the same as the Torah) and the New Testament. What is the Christian holy book called? (the Bible)
8. The Jewish day of rest or Sabbath is on Saturday. When is the Christian day of rest? (Sunday)

I am going to ask a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally, I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

9. *Think Pair Share:* In what ways do Christianity and Judaism seem the same to you? (Both follow the Ten Commandments; both had a prophet; both are monotheistic; etc.) What seems to be the biggest difference? (Answers may vary.)

## Word Work: Miracle

(5 minutes)

1. The read-aloud says that Christians celebrate a *miracle* at Easter, the *miracle* of Jesus Christ coming back to life after he died.
2. Say the word *miracle* with me.
3. A miracle is something truly fantastic—extraordinary, nearly unbelievable.
4. I think that it is a miracle that no one was hurt in the earthquake.
5. What do you think is a miracle? Try to use the word *miracle* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students' responses: "To me, it is a miracle that . . .")
6. What's the word we've been talking about?

Use an *Imagination* activity for follow-up. Turn and talk to your partner. Pretend that you could ask for a miracle to be performed and that your wish for the miracle would be granted. What would that miracle be? Be sure to use the word *miracle* and explain why it would be a miracle.



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 15B

## Christianity



### Extensions

20 minutes

#### Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions (Instructional Master 13B-2, optional)

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Display the incomplete three-column chart like the one shown on the next page.

Explain to students that you are going to use this chart to talk about today's read-aloud. Tell them that you are going to write down what they say on the chart, but that they are not expected to be able to read what you write because they are still learning all the rules for decoding. Emphasize that you are writing what they say so that you don't forget, and tell them that you will read the words to them.

Ask students to help you in filling in the spaces under the Christianity column. If students have trouble recalling facts, you may wish to use images from the Flip Book to jog their memory. If your students are able, you may want to have them continue filling in their own charts using Instructional Master 13B-2.

	<b>JUDAISM</b>	<b>CHRISTIANITY</b>	<b>ISLAM</b>
<b>NUMBER OF GODS</b>	<b>one</b>	<b>one</b>	<b>one</b>
<b>NAME OF MAIN SHRINE IN JERUSALEM</b>	<b>The Western Wall or The Wailing Wall</b>	<b>Church of the Holy Sepulchre</b>	<b>Dome of the Rock</b>
<b>NAME OF KEY PROPHET</b>	<b>Moses</b>	<b>Jesus Christ</b>	Muhammad
<b>NAME OF FOLLOWERS</b>	<b>Jews</b>	<b>Christians</b>	Muslims
<b>SYMBOL OF FAITH</b>	<b>Star of David</b>	<b>Cross</b>	Crescent Moon and Star
<b>BUILDING OF WORSHIP</b>	<b>synagogue/temple</b>	<b>church/chapel/cathedral</b>	mosque
<b>WORSHIP LEADER</b>	<b>rabbi</b>	<b>priest/pastor/minister</b>	imam
<b>NAME OF HOLY BOOK</b>	<b>Torah</b>	<b>Bible</b>	Qur'an
<b>IMPORTANT HOLIDAY</b>	<b>Passover</b>	<b>Easter, Christmas</b>	Ramadan
<b>INTERESTING FACT</b>	<b>Answers may vary.</b>	<b>Answers may vary.</b>	Answers may vary.

### **Domain-Related Trade Book**

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Refer to the list of recommended trade books in the domain introduction at the front of this teacher's guide, and choose a book about Christianity to read aloud to the class. As you read, use the same strategies that you have been using when reading the read-aloud selections in this anthology—pause and ask occasional questions; rapidly clarify critical vocabulary within the context of the read-aloud; etc. After you finish reading the trade book aloud, lead students in a discussion as to how the story or information in this book relates to the read-aloud in this lesson.

# 16

## Islam



### Lesson Objectives

#### Core Content Objectives

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Students will:

- Identify Islam as a monotheistic religion
- Understand that Islam originated in Arabia
- Identify that followers of Islam are called Muslims
- Identify that Muslims believe that Moses and Jesus were prophets, but they believe that Muhammad was the last and greatest of the prophets
- Demonstrate familiarity with important Muslim holidays, such as Ramadan and Eid-ul-fitr
- Define the crescent and star as symbols of Islam
- Identify the Qur'an as the holy book of Islam, containing laws for daily living and many stories that appear in Jewish and Christian scriptures
- Identify that a Muslim place of worship is called a mosque

#### Language Arts Objectives

---

Students will:

- Use agreed-upon rules for group discussions, i.e., look at and listen to the speaker, raise hand to speak, take turns, say “excuse me” or “please,” etc. (L.1.1)
- Carry on and participate in a conversation over at least six turns, staying on topic, initiating comments or responding to a partner’s comments, with either an adult or another child of the same age (L.1.3)

- Prior to listening to a read-aloud, identify (orally or in writing) what they know and have learned that may be related to the specific story or topic to be read aloud (L.1.10)
- Listen to and understand a variety of texts, including fictional stories, fairy tales, fables, historical narratives, informational text, nursery rhymes, and poems (L.1.11)
- Make predictions (orally or in writing) prior to and during a read-aloud, based on the title, pictures, and/or text heard thus far, and then compare the actual outcomes to predictions (L.1.12)
- Describe illustrations (orally or in writing) (L.1.13)
- Use pictures accompanying the read-aloud to check and support understanding of the read-aloud (L.1.14)
- Learn new words from read-alouds and discussions (L.1.15)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) requiring literal recall and understanding of the details and/or facts of a read-aloud, i.e., who, what, where, when, etc. (L.1.17)
- Ask questions to clarify information or the topic in a read-aloud (L.1.18)
- Answer questions (orally or in writing) that require making interpretations, judgments, or giving opinions about what is heard in a read-aloud, including answering “why” questions that require recognizing cause/effect relationships (L.1.20)
- Make personal connections (orally or in writing) to events or experiences in a read-aloud, and/or make connections among several read-alouds (L.1.22)
- Retell (orally or in writing) important facts and information from a read-aloud (L.1.36)
- With assistance, categorize and organize facts and information within a given domain (L.1.38)

## Core Vocabulary

**fasting, n.** Purposeful decision not to eat for a certain period of time, often for religious reasons

*Example:* Fasting is a difficult practice if you are used to eating several times a day.

*Variation(s):* none

**mosque, n.** A house of worship for Muslims

*Example:* Men and women often pray separately in the Muslim mosque.

*Variation(s):* mosques

**Muslim, n.** One who practices the religion of Islam

*Example:* The Muslim people bow in the direction of Mecca, birthplace of Muhammad.

*Variation(s):* Muslims

**prayer, n.** Spoken or silent conversations with God

*Example:* Prayer is a way to be still and listen for guidance.

*Variation(s):* prayers

**similarities, n.** Things in common with one another

*Example:* It is easy to spot the similarities between wolves and dogs.

*Variation(s):* similarity

<i>At a Glance</i>	Exercise	Materials	Minutes
<b><i>Introducing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Essential Background Information or Terms</b>	Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions	10
	<b>Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud</b>		
	<b>Purpose for Listening</b>		
<b><i>Presenting the Read-Aloud</i></b>	Islam		15
<b><i>Discussing the Read-Aloud</i></b>	<b>Comprehension Questions</b>		10
	<b>Word Work: Similarities</b>		5
 <b>Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day</b>			
<b><i>Extensions</i></b>	<b>Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions</b>	chart paper, markers	20
	<b>Domain-Related Trade Book</b>	trade book	

# 16A *Islam*



## **Introducing the Read-Aloud**

**10** minutes

### **Essential Background Information or Terms**

---

It is recommended that you start out with a review of Judaism and Christianity and what you have filled in thus far on the chart about the three major religions.

Tell students that the religion they will hear about today is called Islam. Tell them that Islam, like Judaism and Christianity, began in the Middle East and that the people who practice Islam also believe in one God. Ask if they recall a word used to describe belief in one God. (monotheistic; monotheism) Tell students that the Islamic word for God is *Allah*, which is in Arabic, a language spoken in various countries. You may wish to review what you filled out on the chart thus far.

Explain that like the other two religions already introduced, Islam is also practiced around the world.

### **Making Predictions About the Read-Aloud**

---

Remind students that both Judaism and Christianity have prophets and ask them to name each. (Judaism: Moses; Christianity: Jesus) Ask them to predict whether or not they think Islam has any prophets.

### **Purpose for Listening**

---

Tell students to listen to hear if their predictions are correct.



## Islam

← Show image 16A-1: Maira

Hi. My name is Maira [mah-EE-rah]. That means *moon* in Arabic, my native language. I like that my name matches the symbol of my religion, a crescent moon and a star.



← Show image 16A-2: Crescent and Star <sup>1</sup>

I am **Muslim** and my religion is Islam. It has a lot in common with Judaism and Christianity. My friends, Miriam and Peter, shared their important holidays with you, and I want to do the same.<sup>2</sup>

- 1 We learned that the symbol for Judaism is the Star of David, and a cross is for Christianity. This is the symbol for Islam.
- 2 We call a person who follows Judaism a “Jew” and Christianity a “Christian.” What is a person called who follows Islam?



← Show image 16A-3: Cups, dates, and traditional sweet cheese-filled pastries

Today we are celebrating Eid-ul-Fitr [EED-el FOOT-er], the end of Ramadan [rah-mah-DAH-N], a month of **fasting**. That means that we do not eat or drink anything from sunup to sundown every day for a month!<sup>3</sup> Ramadan is the holiest month of the year for Muslims. But you need to know the story of my faith in order to understand why.

- 3 Muslims have a big celebration at the end of Ramadan. (Point to the illustration and explain that these are some of the foods that might be found at such a celebration.)



← Show image 16A-4: Map of Saudi Arabia <sup>4</sup>

About six hundred years after Jesus lived, the prophet Muhammad was born in the land that we now call Saudi Arabia. In those days, while Christians and Jews already believed in one all-powerful God, the people living in Arabia still believed in many gods and goddesses. Muhammad believed that he heard the voice of God, sending him messages of how to lead a better life, a life of helping others. Muhammad became a prophet and began to spread God’s teachings throughout the land.

- 4 (Ask students to identify the location where Judaism began, where the Jews lived as slaves, where the Jews returned to as “the promised land,” and where Christianity began. Now point out the country we now call Saudi Arabia, and say that Islam began in Arabia.)

Muhammad taught that the rich should share their wealth with the poor. During Muhammad's lifetime the stories that he received from Allah, the Arabic word for God, were never written down because Muhammad could neither read nor write. But later, they were written and collected into the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an [KOOR-AHN].



← **Show image 16A-5: Qur'an**<sup>5</sup>

- 5 (Point to the language on the page and explain that the Qur'an is written in Arabic, the language spoken by Muhammad.)
- 6 when Muhammad learned the stories of the Qur'an
- 7 which means spoken or silent conversations with God
- 8 (Remind students that followers of all three monotheistic religions they have learned about take part in prayer.)

The Qur'an has some stories that are the same as the stories told in both the Hebrew Torah and Christian Bibles. The Qur'an also contains laws about how to live a good life. The month of Ramadan celebrates the time that the Qur'an was revealed to Muhammad.<sup>6</sup> One reason Muslims fast at this time of year is because Muhammad fasted in the desert before he received God's messages. Another reason is to help us remember the poor and the hungry. It is a month of close family activities and much praying. Speaking of **prayer**,<sup>7</sup> let me show you my **mosque**.<sup>8</sup>



← **Show image 16A-6: Mosque**

- 9 (Point to the tower that is part of the mosque.)
- 10 We call a Jewish house of worship a *synagogue*, and a Christian house of worship a *church*. What do we call a Muslim place of worship?

A mosque is the Muslim place of worship, the spiritual center of the Islamic community. Sometimes mosques are very fancy like the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. Ours is not quite so fancy as that, but it is a place I love to go, especially at night during Ramadan. Usually, a mosque has one or two towers known as minarets,<sup>9</sup> and it is from there that the holy man calls us to prayer.<sup>10</sup>



← **Show image 16A-7: Inside a mosque**

- 11 A Jewish worship leader is called a *rabbi*. A Christian worship leader may be called a *priest*, *minister*, or *pastor*. What is a Muslim worship leader called? (Have students repeat the word *Imam* after you.)

Inside the mosque, you will not find rows of seats like there are in churches and synagogues. Instead, we remove our shoes outside the mosque and gather on prayer rugs. Often women and men pray in different areas, but all of them listen to the Imam [ee-MAHM], the man who leads the prayers.<sup>11</sup> Tonight, Muslims will

gather together under the crescent moon “to surrender,” or give control of our lives over, to God. That is, after all, what the word *Islam* means—“surrender to God.” Then we will break the fast together, first with a date and some water as we always do, and then with a marvelous feast. Yum!<sup>12</sup>

12 What do you think “break the fast” means?



← **Show image 16A-8: Family praying**

13 (Have a discussion about the word *pillars* meaning duties. Ask one or two students to list some duties they are expected to do at home. Reiterate that the five pillars are five duties Muslims are expected to do.)

All Muslims must follow the Five Pillars of Islam, the five most important duties we should do to be good Muslims.<sup>13</sup> Praying five times each day in the direction of Mecca, Muhammad’s birthplace, is one of the five pillars, or duties, we must perform.<sup>14</sup> Another pillar is fasting during Ramadan.<sup>15</sup> Other pillars include: helping the poor and needy; and making a pilgrimage, or visit, to Mecca at least once in our lifetimes.

14 (Point to the illustration.)

15 Who remembers what *fasting* means?



← **Show image 16A-9: Ka'ba in Mecca**<sup>16</sup>

16 (Point to the illustration and explain that this is a shrine in the most holy city of Islam called Mecca, where Muhammad was born.) Every Muslim hopes to make a pilgrimage there at least once during his or her lifetime.

The most important pillar, the *shahada*, is declaring our faith in one God. We say: There is no God but God, and Muhammad is His prophet. Muslims believe that Abraham, Moses, and Jesus were all great prophets, but Muslims believe that the greatest of the prophets is Muhammad. Likewise, while we believe in some of the teachings of both the Hebrew and the Christian Bibles, all of our beliefs are in the poetic Qur’an.



← **Show image 16A-10: Maira**

Miriam, Peter, and I belong to three different religions, but I hope that you have learned how many **similarities** we share. I have the same wish for the world as Peter and Miriam. Assalamu Alaikum [ah-sah-LAHM-oo ah-LAYK-koom]. Peace be unto you.

## Discussing the Read-Aloud

15 minutes

### Comprehension Questions

(10 minutes)

1. Were your predictions correct? (Answers may vary.) Is there a prophet for Islam? (yes) What is his/her name? (Muhammad)
2. What are the followers of Islam called? (Muslims)
3. Ramadan is the holiest month of the year for Muslims. What practice do they observe during Ramadan that might be difficult for someone who loves to eat? (fasting from sunup to sunset)
4. Prayer is important to all three religions you have learned about. What is different about prayer time for Muslims? (Prayer is more specified. They must pray five times per day and face the direction of Mecca, Muhammad's birthplace.)
5. Many Muslim children grow up memorizing parts of the Qur'an, the holy book of Islam. Why do you think they do that? (Answers may vary.)
6. How would you describe the setting inside a mosque? (People go barefoot in a mosque and pray on prayer rugs.)
7. What is the symbol of the religion of Islam? (the crescent and the star)
8. *Where? Pair Share:* Asking questions after a read-aloud is one way to see how much everyone has learned. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the read-aloud that starts with the word *where*. For example, you could ask, "Where did Islam begin?" Turn to your neighbor and ask your "where" question. Listen to your neighbor's response. Then your neighbor will ask a new "where" question, and you will get a chance to respond. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

## Word Work: Similarities

(5 minutes)

1. Maira says, “I hope that you have learned how many *similarities* we share.”
2. Say the word *similarities* with me.
3. Similarities are things that people or objects have in common with one another.
4. All birds are different, but they have certain similarities. For example, they all have wings.
5. Look around the room and find two things or people that have similarities. Then tell us what they are. Try to use the word *similarities* when you tell about it. (Ask two or three students. If necessary, guide and/or rephrase the students’ responses: “Ralph and Raoul have similarities. They are both boys in the first grade and both of their names begin with the letter ‘R.’”)
6. What’s the word we’ve been talking about?

Use a *Synonyms and Antonyms* activity for follow-up. I am going to name two objects. If you think the objects have more similarities, say “more similarities.” If you think they have more differences, say “fewer similarities.” (Answers may vary for all.)

1. coats and sweaters
2. elephants and ants
3. apples and bananas
4. schools and churches
5. moms and dads



**Complete Remainder of the Lesson Later in the Day**

# 16B

## Islam



### Extensions

**20** minutes

#### **Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions (Instructional Master 13B-2, optional)**

---

Display the incomplete three-column chart like the one shown.

Explain to students that you are going to use this chart to talk about today's read-aloud. Tell them that you are going to write down what they say on the chart, but that they are not expected to be able to read what you write because they are still learning all the rules for decoding. Emphasize that you are writing what they say so that you don't forget, and tell them that you will read the words to them.

Ask students to help you in filling in the spaces under the Islam column to complete the chart. If students have trouble recalling facts, you may wish to use images from the Flip Book to jog their memory. If your students are able, you may want to have them continue filling in their own charts using Instructional Master 13B-2.

	JUDAISM	CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
NUMBER OF GODS	one	one	one
NAME OF MAIN SHRINE IN JERUSALEM	The Western Wall or The Wailing Wall	Church of the Holy Sepulchre	Dome of the Rock
NAME OF KEY PROPHET	Moses	Jesus Christ	Muhammad
NAME OF FOLLOWERS	Jews	Christians	Muslims
SYMBOL OF FAITH	Star of David	Cross	Crescent Moon and Star
BUILDING OF WORSHIP	synagogue/temple	church/chapel/cathedral	mosque
WORSHIP LEADER	rabbi	priest/pastor/minister	imam
NAME OF HOLY BOOK	Torah	Bible	Qur'an
IMPORTANT HOLIDAY	Passover	Easter, Christmas	Ramadan
INTERESTING FACT	Answers may vary.	Answers may vary.	Answers may vary.

### Domain-Related Trade Book

Refer to the list of recommended trade books in the domain introduction at the front of this teacher's guide, and choose a book about Islam to read aloud to the class. As you read, use the same strategies that you have been using when reading the read-aloud selections in this anthology—pause and ask occasional questions; rapidly clarify critical vocabulary within the context of the read-aloud; etc. After you finish reading the trade book aloud, lead students in a discussion as to how the story or information in this book relates to the read-aloud in this lesson.

# PP3

## Pausing Point 3



### Note to Teacher

This is the end of the read-alouds about three world religions. You may choose to pause here and spend one to two days reviewing, reinforcing, or extending the material taught thus far.

If you do pause, you may have students do any combination of the activities listed below. The activities may be done in any order. You may wish to do one activity on successive days. You may also choose to do an activity with the whole class or with a small group of students who would benefit from the particular activity.

### Core Content Objectives Up to This Pausing Point

Students will:

- Identify Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as major monotheistic world religions
- Define monotheism as the belief in one God
- Locate places associated with Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Describe important figures of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Identify symbols of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Identify buildings associated with Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Describe important holidays of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

### Activities

#### Guest Speakers

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Invite parents or religious leaders in the community to come in and talk about their traditions associated with the three religions. You will want to share with them, ahead of time, the chart used for the extension activity to maintain the focus on particular aspects

of the religions. You may also wish to share the parent letter with your speakers so they understand that you are covering the religions in the context of world history and not for the purpose of proselytizing.

### **Where Are We?**

---

#### **Materials: World map or globe**

Help students locate places associated with the three religions: Jerusalem, Egypt, the Middle East, and Arabia. Have students share connections between these places and the three religions.

### **Image Review**

---

Show the images from any read-aloud again and have students retell the read-aloud using the images. Particular images may also be shown in order to have students identify important people, places, or symbols of the three religions.

### **Domain-Related Trade Book or Student Choice**

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#### **Materials: Trade book**

Read an additional trade book to review a particular religion; refer to the books listed in the domain introduction. You may also choose to have students select a read-aloud to be heard again.

### **Key Vocabulary Brainstorming**

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#### **Materials: Chart paper**

Give the students a key domain concept or vocabulary word such as *monotheism*. Have them brainstorm everything that comes to mind when they hear the word, such as *one God, Judaism, etc.* Record their responses on a piece of chart paper for reference.

### **Riddles for Core Content**

---

Ask the students riddles such as the following to review core content:

- I am the holy book of Islam. What am I? (Qur'an)
- We are the people who practice Judaism? Who are we? (Jews)

- Christians believe that I am the Son of God? Who am I? (Jesus Christ)
- I am a building where Jews go to listen to the rabbi. What am I? (synagogue)
- Muslims believe I was the greatest prophet of all. Who was I? (Muhammad)
- Easter and Christmas are two important holidays in this religion. What religion is this? (Christianity)

### **Class Book: Three World Religions**

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#### **Materials: Drawing paper and drawing tools for each student**

Tell the class or a group of students that they are going to make a class book to help them remember what they have learned about three world religions. Have the students brainstorm important information about Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Have each student choose one idea to draw a picture of and then have him or her write a caption for the picture. Bind the pages to make a book to put in the class library for students to read again and again.

### **Which Religion?**

---

Give each student or a group of students three cards each having the letter 'J' for Judaism, 'C' for Christianity, or 'I' for Islam. Tell the students that you are going to say a word and they should hold up the correct card to indicate with which religion the word is associated. Some words that may be used are *Jesus Christ*, *Muslims*, *Star of David*, *church*, *Torah*, *Ramadan*, etc. Then, have students orally explain each connection.

Another option is to designate three areas of the room for the three religions and have students walk to the correct area.

### **Three-Column Chart: Three World Religions**

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Conceal the information on the Three-Column Chart that was used in the extension activities. Ask students if they can identify particular pieces of information such as, "What is the name of the holy book of Christianity?" See if the class is able to uncover the entire chart.

# DA

## Domain Assessment



This domain assessment evaluates each student's retention of the core content targeted in *Early World Civilizations*.



### Domain Assessment

---

Note: There are four parts to this assessment. You may choose to do the parts in more than one sitting if you feel this is more appropriate for your students.

#### **Part I (Instructional Master DA-1)**

Directions: I will read a sentence about an ancient civilization. If it is only true for Mesopotamia, circle the letter 'M' in that row. If the sentence is only true for Egypt, circle the letter 'E' in that row. If the sentence is true for both Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt, circle the letters 'M' and 'E' in that row. (Note: It may be helpful for some students to have a bookmark to put under the row being used each time.)

Say: Asking questions is one way to make sure everyone knows what to do. Think of a question you can ask your neighbor about the directions I have just given you. For example, you could ask, "What should we do first?" Turn to your neighbor and ask your own question now. I will call on several of you to share your questions with the class.

1. This civilization developed along the Nile River in Africa. (E)
2. This civilization developed between the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers in Asia. (M)
3. This civilization discovered that the flooding of the river left rich soil for growing crops. (E)
4. This civilization realized the importance of developing a system of writing to keep records. (M, E)
5. This civilization developed a system of writing known as cuneiform. (M)

6. This civilization developed a system of writing using hieroglyphs. (E)
7. This civilization was ruled by a pharaoh. (E)
8. This civilization understood that leaders were important. (M, E)
9. This civilization had written laws known as the Code of Hammurabi. (M)
10. This civilization built pyramids as burial places for important people. (E)
11. This civilization had cities. (M, E)
12. This civilization believed in many gods and goddesses. (M, E)

**Part II (Instructional Master DA-2)**

Directions: I will read the words in the left-hand and right-hand columns. Draw a line to match each religion with its correct symbol and leader.

**Part III (Instructional Master DA-3)**

Directions: I will read a sentence about one of the three religions we discussed. If it is true for Judaism, circle the letter 'J' in that row. If it is true for Christianity, circle the letter 'C' in that row. If it is true for Islam, circle the letter 'I' in that row.

1. This religion is the oldest of the three. (J)
2. People of this religion go to a mosque to worship Allah, which is how you say *God* in the Arabic language. (I)
3. The holy book of this religion is the Bible. (C)
4. The people who follow this religion are called Muslims. (I)
5. The Star of David is an important symbol of this religion. (J)
6. Easter and Christmas are important holidays in this religion. (C)
7. People of this religion believe that Jesus is the Son of God. (C)
8. Praying five times a day is one of the duties of followers of this religion. (I)
9. The followers of this religion are called Jews or Jewish people. (J)

10. People of this religion go to a church to worship God. (C)
11. A rabbi is a leader in this religion. (J)
12. People of this religion believe the greatest of all the prophets was Muhammad. (I)

***Part IV (Instructional Master DA-4)***

Directions: On the lines below, write one to two sentences sharing the most interesting thing you learned about in this domain. You can write about Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, or the three religions.



**For Teacher Reference Only:**  
Copies of *Tell It Again! Workbook*







Dear Parent or Guardian,

During the next several days, your child will be learning about the ancient civilization of Mesopotamia. S/he will learn about the importance of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers for farming and the cities that grew where people settled. Your child will also learn about the development of a system of writing called cuneiform, the existence of leaders called kings, and the importance of religion. Your child will come to understand that it is because of these key components that Mesopotamia is considered a civilization. Below are some suggestions for activities that you may do at home to reinforce what your child is learning about Mesopotamia.

### **1. Where Are We?**

Have your child locate the area known as Mesopotamia (located in the Middle East) on a world map or globe. (If you do not have a map, check one out from the library.) Talk about the geography of this area. (desert, Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, etc.)

### **2. Draw and Write**

Have your child draw and/or write about what has been learned about Mesopotamia and then share the drawing with you. Ask questions to keep your child using the vocabulary learned at school.

### **3. Compare Civilizations**

Compare/contrast the farming, cities, writing, leaders, and religion of Mesopotamia and the United States. Talk about the importance of each of these components in any civilization.

### **4. Borrow a Book**

Reading to your child is the single most important thing that you can do to encourage his/her literacy development. The local library has a variety of books about Mesopotamia. Check one out and read it with your child.

### **5. The Golden Rule**

Your child will learn the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Talk with your child about the meaning of this saying and ways to follow it. Find opportunities to compliment your child for following the Golden Rule.

Be sure to praise your child whenever s/he shares what has been learned at school.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: Draw a picture and/or write about what you have learned about each of these components of the civilizations of Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt.*

Farming      Cities      Writing      Leaders      Religion

Mesopotamia

Ancient Egypt






Dear Parent or Guardian,

I hope you have enjoyed talking with your child about the ancient civilization of Mesopotamia. For the next several days, your child will be learning about another ancient civilization, ancient Egypt. S/he will learn about the importance of the Nile River for farming and the cities that grew where people settled. Your child will also learn about the development of a system of writing using hieroglyphs, the existence of leaders called pharaohs, and the importance of religion as key elements or components of a civilization. Your child will be able to compare this ancient civilization to Mesopotamia. Below are some suggestions for activities that you may do at home to reinforce what your child is learning about ancient Egypt.

### **1. Where Are We?**

Have your child locate the continent of Africa and the country of Egypt on a world map or globe. (If you do not have a map, check one out from the library.) Talk about the geography of this area. (Sahara Desert, Nile River . . .)

### **2. Draw and Write**

Have your child draw and/or write about what has been learned about ancient Egypt and then share the drawing with you. Ask questions to keep your child using the vocabulary learned at school.

### **3. Compare Civilizations**

Compare/contrast the farming, cities, writing, leaders, and religion of ancient Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt. Talk about the importance of each of these components in both civilizations.

### **4. Borrow a Book**

Reading to your child is the single most important thing that you can do to encourage his/her literacy development. The local library has a variety of books about ancient Egypt. Check one out and read it with your child.

Be sure to praise your child whenever s/he shares what has been learned at school.



# Egyptian Hieroglyphs

Directions: Use these hieroglyphs to write your name and then some other words or a short message.



Aa



Bb



Cc, Ss, Zz



Dd



Ee



Ff, Vv



Gg



Hh



Ii



Jj



Kk



Ll



Mm



Nn



Oo



Pp



Qq



Rr



Tt



Uu, Ww



*Directions: Think about what you heard in the read-aloud to fill in the chart using words or sentences.*

<b>Somebody</b>	
<b>Wanted</b>	
<b>But</b>	
<b>So</b>	
<b>Then</b>	





Dear Parent or Guardian,

During the past several weeks, your child has been listening to read-alouds about the ancient civilizations and people of Mesopotamia and Egypt. They have learned that the ancient Mesopotamians and Egyptians worshipped many different gods. We have talked about how these beliefs influenced the daily lives of the ancient Mesopotamians and Egyptians and helped to shape their civilizations.

On \_\_\_\_\_, we will begin the remaining lessons in this unit of study. The read-alouds will extend what the students have already learned about the ancient Mesopotamians' and Egyptians' belief in many gods, by explaining the historical changes that began to take place and how these ancient people developed new beliefs and practices that focused on just one single God, rather than many gods. These final read-alouds provide a historical introduction to the development of three world religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—which are all characterized by a belief in only one God.

The Core Knowledge Program introduces students at various grade levels to the major world religions as part of their study of world history. The intent is to provide the vocabulary and context for understanding the many ways that the world religions have influenced ideas and events in history. It is important to understand that the religions your child will hear about in first grade—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—are not being singled out or presented in any way that suggests the merits or correctness of specific religious beliefs.

The read-alouds in first grade focus on teaching students very basic similarities and differences among the religions, fostering an understanding and respect for those similarities and differences. The historical events and ideas leading to the development of each religion are presented in a balanced and respectful manner. If the students have questions about the truth or “rightness” of any beliefs or religions, we will encourage them to discuss their questions with you at home, by saying, “People of different faiths believe different things to be true. The best people to answer your questions are your family and the adults at home.”

We recognize that you may have questions about how these topics will be taught, so we will be happy to provide you with a copy of the read-alouds for these lessons. Just let us know if you would like a copy.

The Core Knowledge Program's inclusion of world religions within the teaching of world history is very comprehensive and very balanced over the course of the elementary grades, presenting historical knowledge from around the world, beginning in ancient times and culminating in modern-day history. The read-alouds about Judaism, Christianity, and Islam that your child will hear in first grade will be elaborated on in later grades, along with introductions to additional religions, such as Hinduism and Buddhism, as students learn about other historical events and other parts of the world.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

## Three World Religions

	JUDAISM	CHRISTIANITY	ISLAM
NUMBER OF GODS			
NAME OF MAIN SHRINE IN JERUSALEM			
NAME OF KEY PROPHET			
NAME OF FOLLOWERS			
SYMBOL OF FAITH			
BUILDING OF WORSHIP			
WORSHIP LEADER			
NAME OF HOLY BOOK			
IMPORTANT HOLIDAY			
INTERESTING FACT			



Directions: Listen to the sentence read by the teacher. If the sentence is true for the civilization of Mesopotamia, circle the 'M' in the row. If the sentence is true for the civilization of ancient Egypt, circle the 'E' in the row. If the sentence is true for both civilizations, circle both the 'M' and the 'E' in the row.

1.

M

E

2.

M

E

3.

M

E

4.

M

E

5.

M

E

6.

M

E

7. M E

8. M E

9. M E

10. M E

11. M E

12. M E

---

Directions: Listen to the sentence read by the teacher. If the sentence is true for the civilization of Mesopotamia, circle the 'M' in the row. If the sentence is true for the civilization of ancient Egypt, circle the 'E' in the row. If the sentence is true for both civilizations, circle both the 'M' and the 'E' in the row.

1.

M

E

2.

M

E

3.

M

E

4.

M

E

5.

M

E

6.

M

E

7. M (E)

8. (M) (E)

9. (M) E

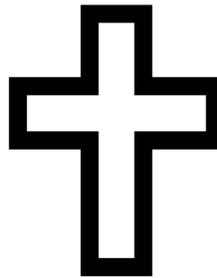
10. M (E)

11. (M) (E)

12. (M) (E)

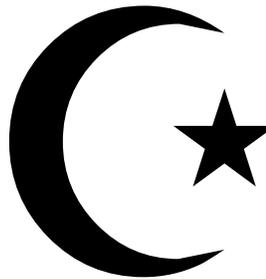
Directions: Listen to the teacher read aloud the words in the left-hand and right-hand columns. Draw a line to match each religion with its symbol and leader.

Judaism



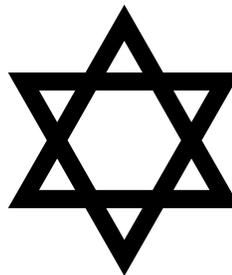
Jesus

Christianity



Moses

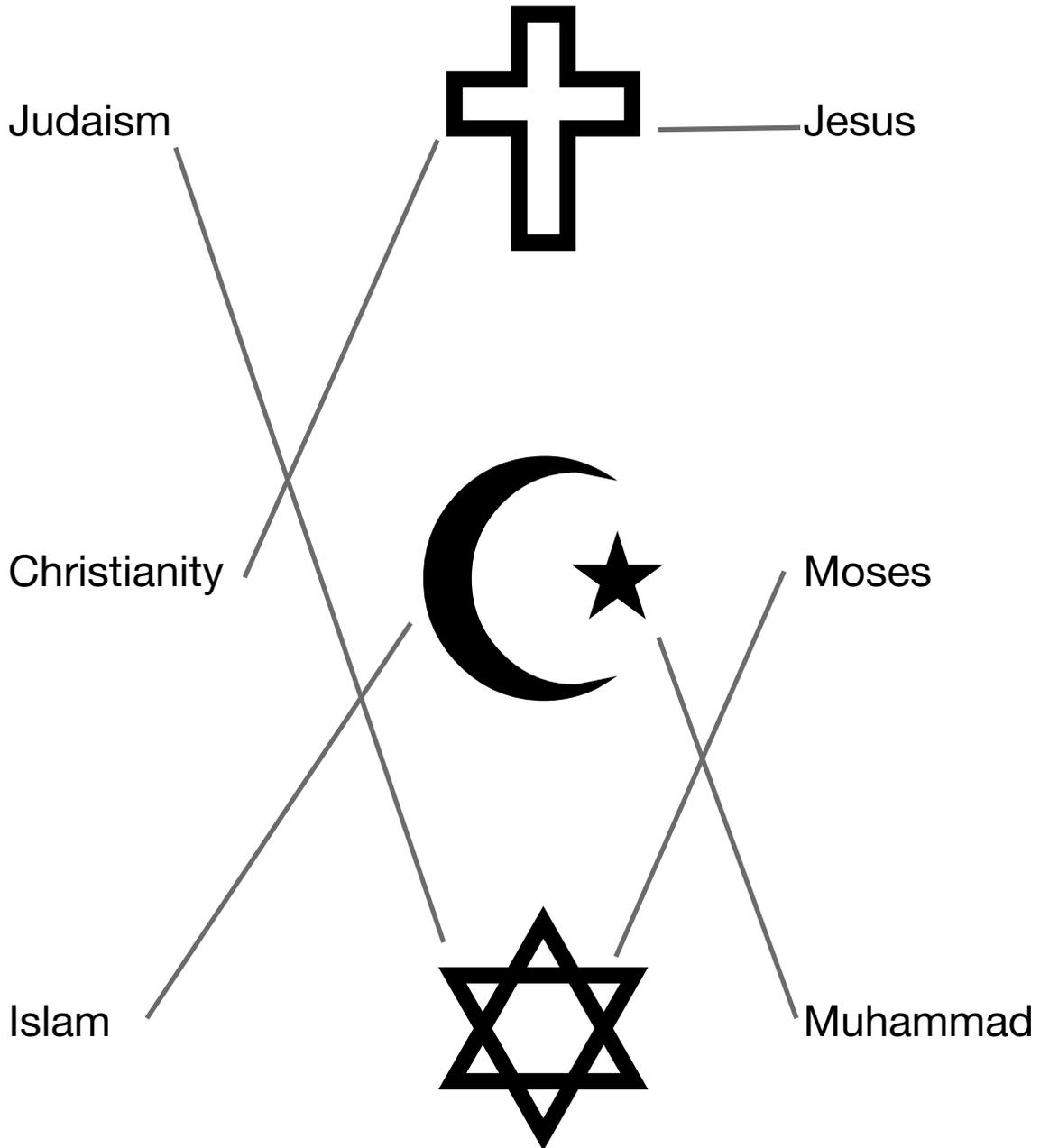
Islam



Muhammad



Directions: Listen to the teacher read aloud the words in the left-hand and right-hand columns. Draw a line to match each religion with its symbol and leader.





Directions: Listen to the sentence read by the teacher. If the sentence is true for Judaism, circle the 'J' in the row. If the sentence is true for Christianity, circle the 'C' in the row. If the sentence is true for Islam, circle the 'I' in the row.

1.	J	C	I
2.	J	C	I
3.	J	C	I
4.	J	C	I
5.	J	C	I
6.	J	C	I

---

7. J C I

8. J C I

9. J C I

10. J C I

11. J C I

12. J C I

---

Directions: Listen to the sentence read by the teacher. If the sentence is true for Judaism, circle the 'J' in the row. If the sentence is true for Christianity, circle the 'C' in the row. If the sentence is true for Islam, circle the 'I' in the row.

1.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> J	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> I
2.	<input type="radio"/> J	<input type="radio"/> C	<input checked="" type="radio"/> I
3.	<input type="radio"/> J	<input checked="" type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> I
4.	<input type="radio"/> J	<input type="radio"/> C	<input checked="" type="radio"/> I
5.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> J	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> I
6.	<input type="radio"/> J	<input checked="" type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> I

7. J C I

8. J C I

9. J C I

10. J C I

11. J C I

12. J C I

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: On the lines below, write one or two sentences sharing the most interesting thing you learned about in this domain. You can write about Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, or the three religions.*

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 10 sets of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid).





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