

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

Chapter 2: Early People
Lesson 3: Early Settlements and Cities



Big Idea New ways of life developed when settlements were built in southwestern Asia.

The Fertile Crescent includes some of the oldest cities in the world. It is a region of fertile soil that extends from Mesopotamia to northwestern Africa.

Jericho

Vocabulary

1) obsidian black volcanic rock

2) oasis a place in the desert that has a dependable supply of water.

Jericho was an important trading center.

The people of Jericho traded surplus food for things that they needed:

- They traded for obsidian, which they used as a cutting tool and to make mirrors.

Why did the people of Jericho have to build tall walls to protect their city?

- Since their city was built on an oasis, invaders wanted their water.

Jericho was abandoned around 6000 BCE. Since then, at least two other Jerichos have been built near the location of the first one.



I am obsidian. I am smooth and shiny like glass. I can also be very sharp. OUCH! Lookout!

Catal Huyuk

Vocabulary

- 1) imports trade goods brought in from other places
- 2) exports trade goods sent out to other places

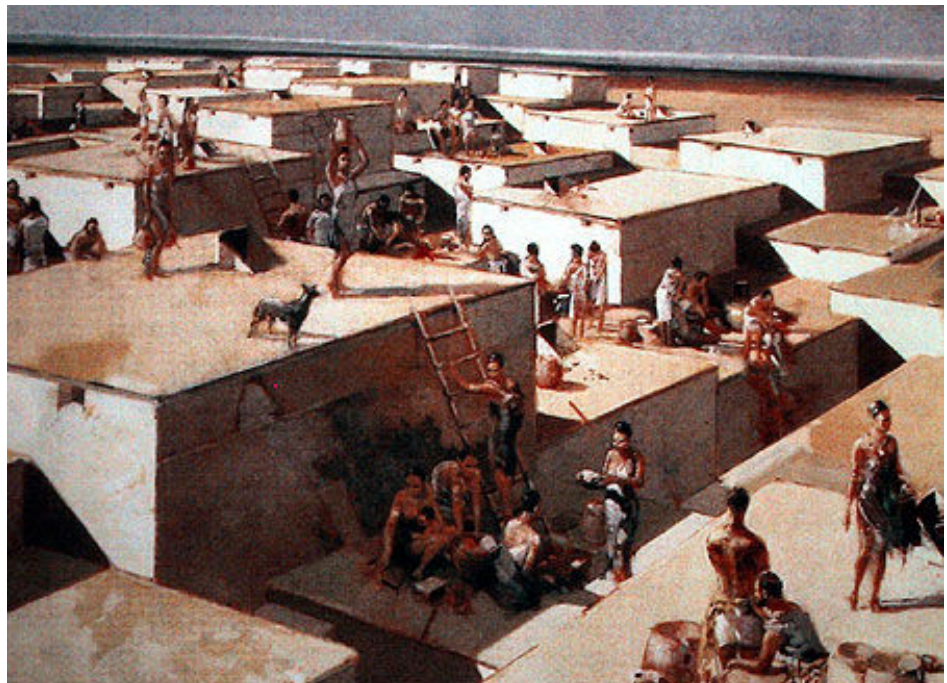
The people of Catal Huyuk lived in closely packed homes with entrances on the roof.

The people of Catal Huyuk were well organized and prosperous. They imported raw materials like:

- obsidian
- flint
- copper
- shells
- timber (wood)

They turned the raw materials into goods that they exported:

- weapons
- tools
- cloth
- sculptures
- pottery



Early Cities

Vocabulary

- 1) complex society - a society with a reliable food source, established laws, customs, and job specialization.
- 2) ziggurat - a stepped tower temple located at the center of the city and dedicated to that city's god
- 3) city-state - a city and the area surrounding it having its own government and leaders
- 4) civilization - a complex society with developed forms of religion, ways of governing, and centers of learning.

Some of the world's first cities grew along the banks of these two rivers:

- Tigris River
- Euphrates River

This region was called Mesopotamia, or the land between two rivers.

The city of Ur existed around 3000 BCE. Ur's magnificent ziggurat is still standing today.

The people of Ur specialized in many jobs, including:

- Pottery
- Weaving
- Working with leather
- Working with copper
- Working with stone
- Managers
- Religious leaders
- Traders
- Builders

Describe a home in the ancient city of Ur.

- The people lived in rectangular houses built of mud bricks and stone.
- Reed mats and wool rugs covered the floors.
- Furniture included tables, chairs, and beds and there were baskets made of reeds or wood.
- A common pet was the mongoose because it is good at catching rats, mice, and snakes.

The combination of early city-states and the development of complex societies led to the beginnings of civilization.

