

Vocabulary

1. Fertile Crescent
2. silt
3. levee
4. Mesopotamia
5. Persian Gulf
6. Tigris
7. Euphrates
8. irrigation
9. erosion
10. Taurus Mountains

Geography of the Fertile Crescent

Our World

Lesson
Summaries

Reading Passage

The Land Between the Rivers

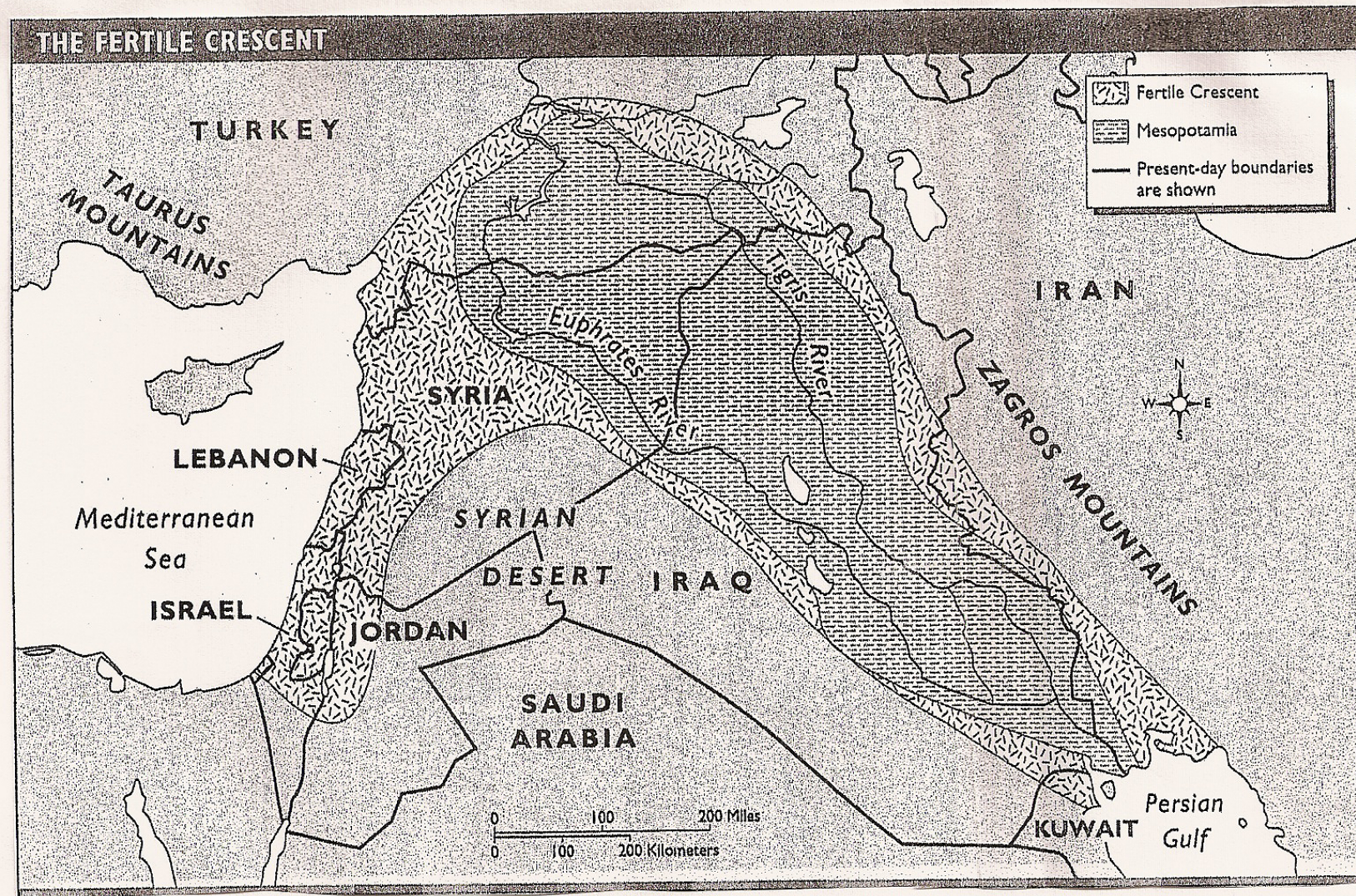
- Ancient Greeks called the region between the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers Mesopotamia. Both rivers begin in the Taurus Mountains in Turkey. The rivers deposit silt as they flow south, making the region a good place for farming. Farmers in southern Mesopotamia protected their fields from flooding by building a system of levees. Northern Mesopotamia usually had enough rain to make some farming possible yet the earth was mostly rocky and bad for farming. Farmers in this region had to irrigate their crops.

Successful Farmers

- Mesopotamian farmers grew many different crops. There were fields of wheat and barley. There were also gardens of beans, onions, lettuce, cucumbers, and herbs. Farmers also grew date palm, apple, and pomegranate trees. Shepherds herded sheep and goats for their milk and wool. Cattle were work animals, and produced milk and meat.

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Found in the center of the foldable. Used to identify: Taurus Mountains, Tigris and Euphrates rivers, Persian Gulf, and the Fertile Crescent.



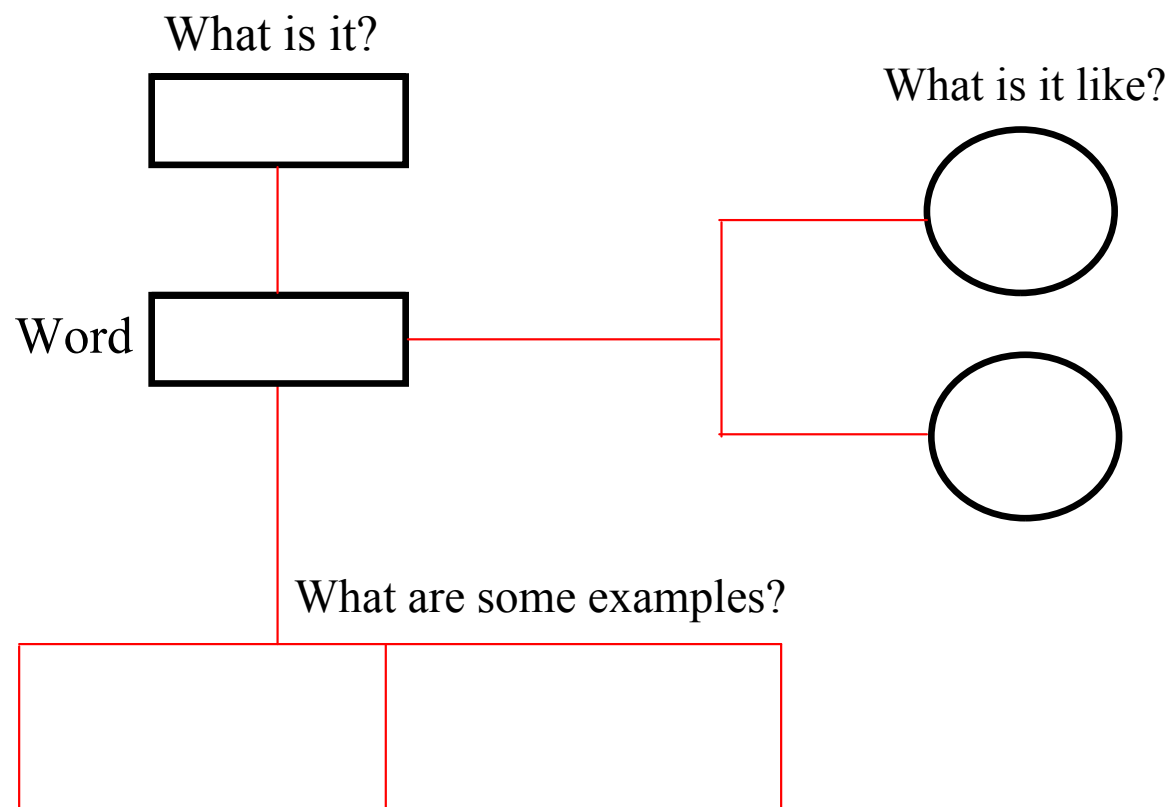
Click on attachments to view Powerpoint!

Word Map

A word map is a graphic organizer used to learn vocabulary.
It answers the questions:

- What is it?
- What is it like?
- What are some examples?

The following is an example of a word map to learn the vocabulary word **crescent**

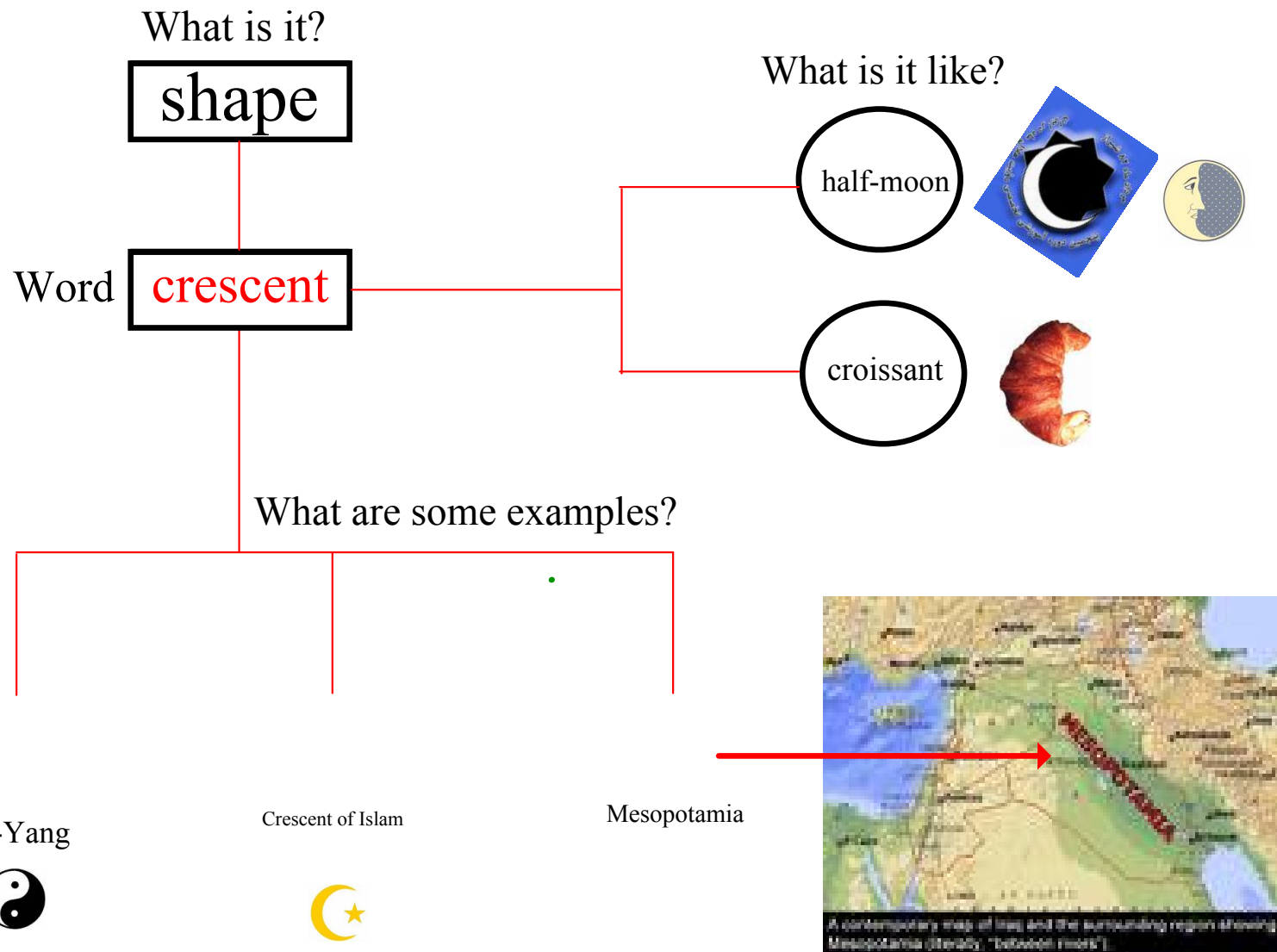


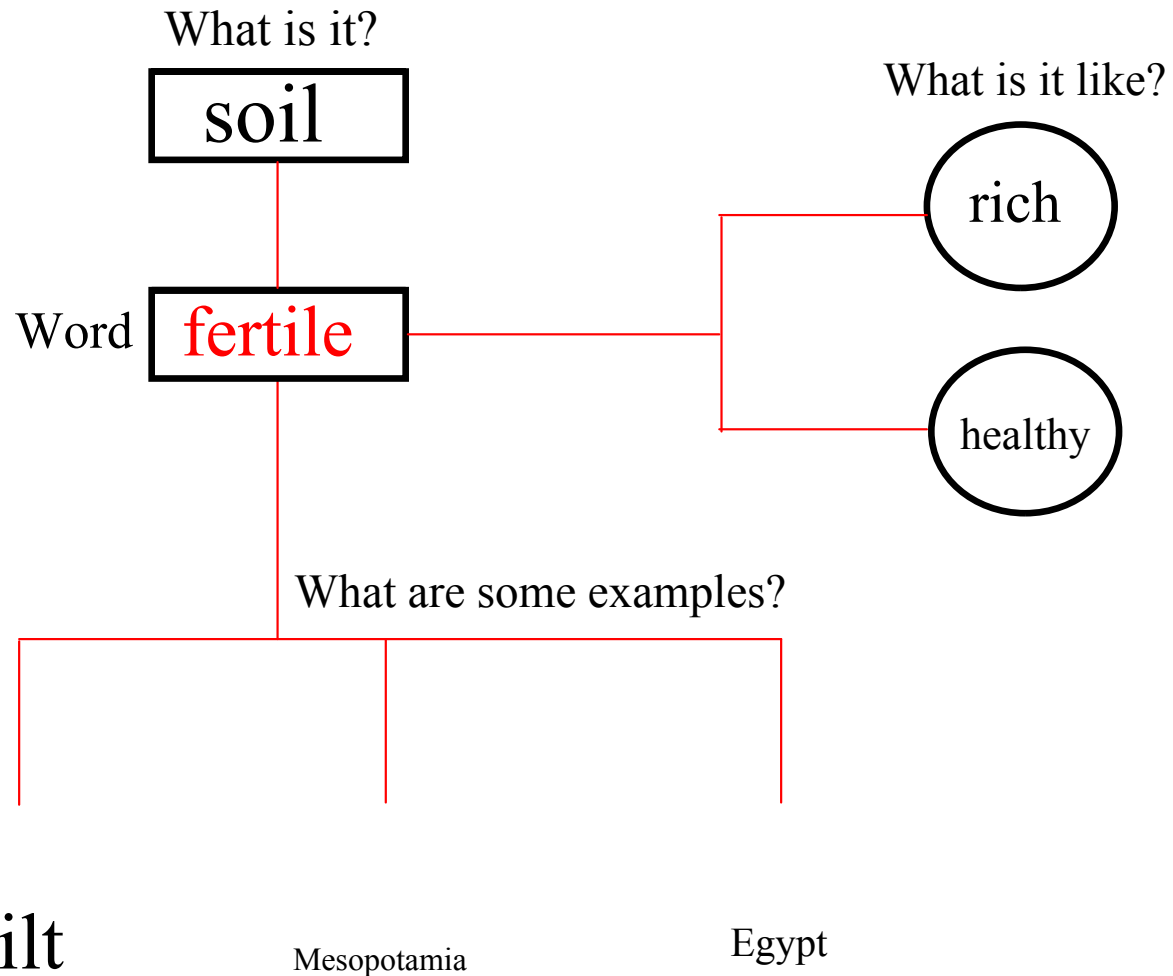
Worksheet

Brainstorming

Crescent

smile { Shrimp } ear
frown { boomerang } half-circle
moustache { }
Slice of watermelon { }
Mc Donald sign





Assessment

Use the vocabulary on the bottom to complete the statements. Write the word to fill in the space.

_____ is in present-day Iraq. This area, known as the _____ extends into Egypt. The _____ and _____ rivers supply the water needed by farmers. These rivers begin in the _____ and empties into the _____. The rivers deposit _____ as they flow south. Mesopotamians protected their fields from flooding by using a system of _____. As a result of _____, most of Iraq is a desert.

1. Taurus Mountains
2. Euphrates
3. levees
4. silt
5. Tigris
6. Fertile Crescent
7. Mesopotamia
8. Persian Gulf
9. erosion
10. irrigation

Assessment

Answer Key

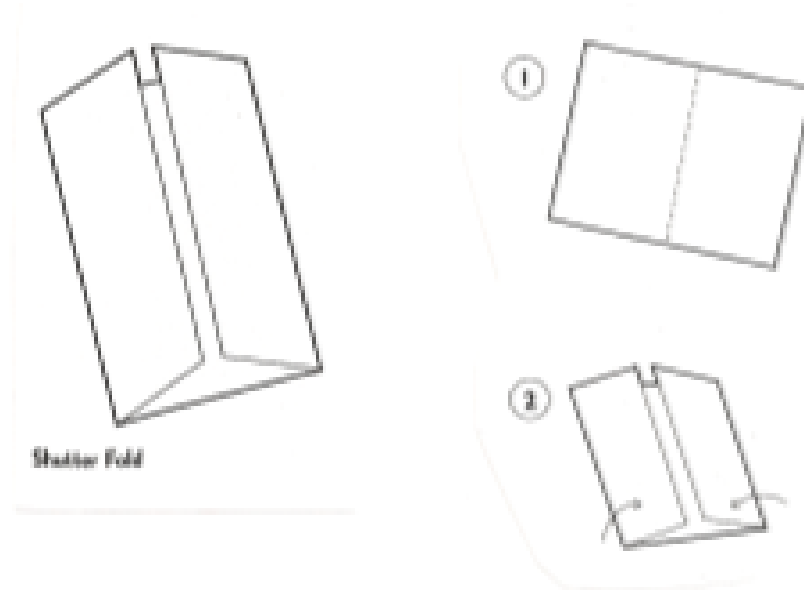
Use the vocabulary that you have learned to complete the following statements

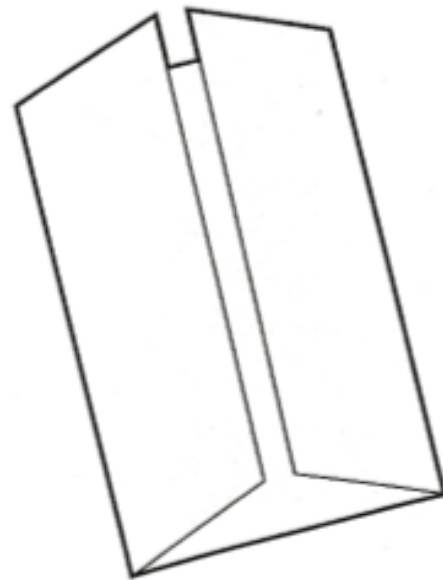
Mesopotamia is in present-day Iraq. This area, known as the Fertile Crescent extends into Egypt. The Euphrates and Tigris rivers supply the water needed by farmers. These rivers begin in the Taurus Mountains and empties into the Persian Gulf. The rivers deposit silt as they flow south. Mesopotamians protected their fields from flooding by using a system of levees. As a result of erosion, most of Iraq is a desert.

1. Taurus Mountains
2. Euphrates
3. levees
4. silt
5. Tigris
6. Fertile Crescent
7. Mesopotamia
8. Persian Gulf
9. erosion
10. irrigation

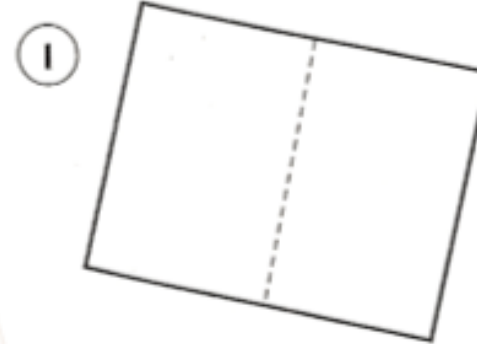
Making a foldable

- You will be making a Shutter Fold
- Using 11"x17" paper
- Lay the paper on a desk(horizontally)
- The longer length-17" should be facing you
- Fold the left and right sides so that they meet evenly in the middle
- You should have a sheet with the ends being the same and a wider part in the middle
- Hold your paper vertically so that the top and bottom are the same
- This is where your bullets will be written
- Five on the top and five on the bottom
- The map will go in the middle
- Make your cover
- Glue vocabulary-Mesopotamia and Fertile Crescent





Shutter Fold



Front page of foldable

Mesopotamia

Fertile
Crescent

Student Samples

As part of the assessment, students had to show that they learned ten characteristics of the Geography of the Fertile Crescent.

The following are samples completed by students. On the top of the inside cover of the foldable, students wrote five bullets(facts) about the Fertile Crescent. They were required to do the same on the bottom half of the foldable.

- Mesopotamia is located in the Fertile Crescent.
- Mesopotamia is surrounded by the Euphrates and Tigris rivers.
- The Tigris and Euphrates rivers begin in the Taurus Mountains.
- Mesopotamia is located in modern-day Iraq.
- The Fertile Crescent stretched into Egypt.

student samples

I've learned that...

- During droughts the people of Mesopotamia depended on the rivers.
- Mesopotamian farmers grew wheat, barley, beans, onions, lettuce, cucumbers, and herbs.
- In order to grow crops farmers had to setup a system of irrigation.
- To protect the city from flooding, Levees were built.
- Farmers used silt to grow crops.

- The Taurus Mountains are in Turkey
- Farmers built levee systems to prevent flooding
- Trees helped prevent flooding
- Bit is soil that is moved by water
- Farmers had a water system of canals or pipes to get water to the crops

I've learned that....

- The Tigris and Euphrates rivers gave life to Mesopotamia
- The Tigris and Euphrates rivers ran into the Persian Gulf
- Mesopotamia is known as the land between the two rivers
- Mesopotamia is between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
- The Tigris and Euphrates rivers begin at the Taurus Mountains

- The Fertile Crescent is a region of Western Asia.
- A wall built along a river-bank to prevent flooding is a levee.
- The gradual wearing away of soil and rock by wind, glaciers, or water is called erosion.
- The region between the Tigris and the Euphrates is Mesopotamia.
- There were fields of wheat and barley in the Fertile Crescent.

I have learned that

- A draught is a shortage of rain.
- The Tigris and Euphrates rivers begin in the Taurus Mountains in Turkey.
- Irrigation is the watering of dry land by means of canals or pipes.
- A mixture of tiny bits of soil and rock carried and deposited by a river is called silt.
- Ancient Greeks called the region between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers Mesopotamia.

- Fertile Crescent means "rich soil"
- Farmers irrigated their crops
- a drought is a long period of dry weather
- The Taurus Mountains are in Turkey
- The Persian Gulf is part of the Arabian Sea

I've learned that

- The Tigris river and Euphrates river begin at the Taurus Mountains
- Ancient Greeks called the land between the two rivers Mesopotamia
- Erosion is the wearing away of soil
- Silt is moist dirt carried by rivers
- Farmers built a system of levees to keep their fields from flooding

Assessment

- Students will complete a foldable with ten points of information on the Geography of the Fertile Crescent
- Students will be given a map on the Fertile Crescent to complete the following task
- Students will trace(highlight) the flow of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers
- Students will put #1 where the Tigris and Euphrates begin
- Students will put #2 where the Tigris and Euphrates empties into
- Students will put #3 to identify the Fertile Crescent
- Students will complete the following statement. Mesopotamia is in present-day _____

Rubric

Based on 100%

1. 93%
2. 87%
3. 80%
4. 73%
5. 67%
6. 60%
7. 53%
8. 47%
9. 40%
10. 33%
11. 27%
12. 20%
13. 13%
14. 7%
15. 0%

Answer Key

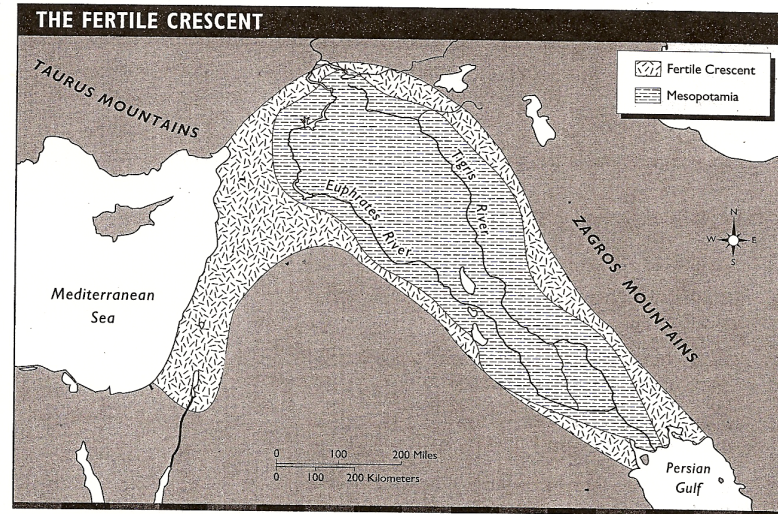
These are some acceptable responses, but not exclusive, for grading the required expectations: Students will show that they learned ten characteristics on the Geography of the Fertile Crescent.

- Mesopotamia is in present-day Iraq
- Mesopotamia is in the Fertile Crescent
- Fertile Crescent extends into Egypt
- Mesopotamia developed around the natural resource-water
- Tigris and Euphrates rivers are on each side of the Fertile Crescent
- Tigris and Euphrates rivers begin in the Taurus Mountains
- Tigris and Euphrates rivers empties into the Persian Gulf
- Fertile Crescent is an area shaped like a crescent, ear, boomerang, etc. which has rich soil
- Rivers deposit silt as they flow south
- Mesopotamian farmers protected their fields from flooding by building levees
- Farmers in the northern part of Mesopotamia had to irrigate their crops because of lack of water
- Mesopotamian farmers grew many different crops
- They grew wheat and barley
- Shepherds herded sheep and goats for their milk and wool
- Cattle were work animals, which also produced milk and meat
- Erosion was the main cause of Iraq becoming a desert

Geography of the Fertile Crescent

Practice
and Activity

Use the map below to answer the questions. For help, refer to pages 54 to 57 in your textbook.



1. What two important rivers are shown on the map?

2. Where do the rivers begin?

3. Into what body of water do these rivers flow?

4. In ancient times what civilization developed between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers?

5. What made the Fertile Crescent good for farming?

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Attachments

Lesson1 Mesopotamia-pages54-57voc.ppt