

COMMON CORE
Lessons & Activities

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

Reading for Information

Higher-Order Thinking

Writing Prompts

Primary Source Analysis

Vocabulary

Graphic Organizers

Map Activities

& More!

REPRODUCIBLE

One teacher is allowed to make copies for use in her/his classroom!



About this Book

This Common Core Lessons and Activities Book allows you to immediately meet new Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, as well as Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies. It is designed to supplement your Social Studies resources, adding new Common Core rigor, analysis, writing, inference, text-dependent questions, and more into your daily instruction.

How to Use this Book:

- Work through the lessons and activities as a class to teach your students higher-order thinking, analysis, and 21st century skills necessary to meet new Common Core expectations.
- Allow students to work through the lessons independently to build and practice these new skills.
- Include technology, collaboration, presentation, and discussion in the activities as you desire—you can decide how in-depth to go.
- Watch your class develop new abilities to meet the rigor of Common Core State Standards, right before your eyes!

Tips:

- Use some of the pages—or use them all—based on your grade, your students, your curriculum, and your needs.
- Use the pages at their current size, or if you prefer them to be 8-1/2" x 11", enlarge them 125% on your copy machine.
- Download graphic organizers labeled “GO” in the Table of Contents by going to: www.gallopade.com/client/go
- Use the correlations grid to easily see which Common Core standards are covered in each lesson.

Common Core Lessons & Activities: Ancient Civilizations

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G: Includes Graphic Organizer

GO: Graphic Organizer is also available 8½" x 11" online
download at www.gallopade.com/client/go

(numbers above correspond to the graphic organizer numbers online)

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

India's Caste System

Ancient India was separated into a strict caste system. A caste system divides a society into social classes. Each class served a different role within society. In ancient India, a person's caste was determined by the family they were born into.

Use online or classroom resources to complete the graphic organizer by writing a description of each social class. Then, answer the question below the organizer.

The Hindu Caste System

Brahmin:

Kshatriyas:

Visayas:

Sudras:

Dalits: The Untouchables

Compare ancient India's caste system to ancient Egypt's social class system on page 5. How are they alike? How are they different?

VOCABULARY

Civilizations Vocabulary

Use the dictionary and other resources to complete the graphic organizer for each vocabulary word.

archaeology

caste system

city-state

civilization

conquer

culture

dynasty

empire

gods

hieroglyphics

religion

warrior

DEFINITION	FACTS/CHARACTERISTICS
WORD	
EXAMPLES	NON-EXAMPLES

SAMPLE

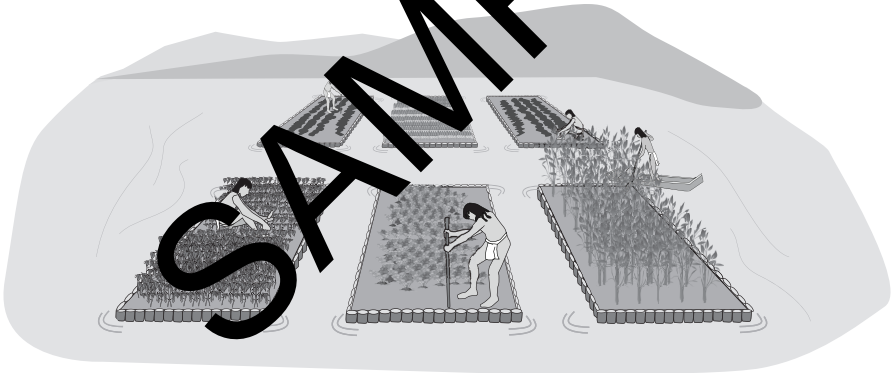
PROBLEM-SOLUTION

Aztec Floating Gardens

Use the drawing and text to answer the questions.

The ancient Aztecs settled around Lake Texcoco in the Valley of Mexico. The Aztecs' land was wet and marshy. As the Aztec civilization grew, they needed more land to grow food. While they could have expanded to dry land, their crops would not be protected from outside enemies. The Aztecs devised a solution called a "chinampa." This was a floating garden to keep their crops close and protected.

The Aztecs created chinampas by building large, flat rafts and anchoring them to trees or to the bottom of shallow marshland. They piled mud and drying vegetation on top of the rafts, covered them with a layer of soil, and planted seeds. The rafts floated in the lake and marsh areas. Chinampas were very successful and produced large harvests of food for the Aztecs.



1. What caused the Aztecs to invent the chinampa?
2. List 3-5 ways the chinampas provided a solution for the Aztecs.
3. Take on the role of a newspaper reporter in the days of the Aztecs. Use the text and illustration to write an article describing chinampas. Use the five W's of journalism: who, what, when, where, and why. Include fictional quotes from Aztec farmers whom you "interview." Proofread and edit your work.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

Maya Beauty Standards

Read the narrative and answer the questions.

Soon I will be taking some more steps to become a beautiful Maya woman instead of a little girl. It can be a painful process sometimes, but it is worth it! The process began when I was a baby. My mother, like all Maya mothers, bound a flat board to my forehead to make my forehead longer and slant backwards. Once my skull bones hardened, my forehead had the perfect look.

Now that I'm old enough, I will be able to file my teeth! I am thinking of filing the front four teeth to points, and grinding my side teeth so they are shorter than the others. I might even drill some holes in my teeth so I can insert colored stones like jade in them. Oh—did I tell you I am cross-eyed? My mother attached tiny balls to my hair and let them fall on my face between my eyes. When you stare at them long enough, your eyes cross!

I also plan to get my ears, nose, and lips pierced. My mother already has some beautiful jewelry I can't wait to wear on my nose and lips. And speaking of my nose, I wear a special nosepiece to squeeze my nose into just the perfect shape. Of course, I'll be getting several tattoos as well. I want something bright and colorful on both arms that spreads up my neck. But that won't be for a while—after I get married!

1. List 3-5 ways the Maya view of beauty differs from your view of beauty.
2. Describe the tone of this journal entry. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
3. What inferences can you make about how the idea of beauty is formed? What might make something beautiful to one person and not to another?
4. What is your reaction to the narrative? Describe how you feel when you read it.
5. Write a fictional narrative from the perspective of a young girl in American society today. What types of things will she do to make herself "beautiful"?

Common Core Lessons & Activities Books

Social Studies Titles:

- Declaration of Independence
- U.S. Constitution
- Bill of Rights
- Road to the Civil War
- The Civil War: Key Battles & Events
- Jamestown
- Key Events of World War II
- Civil Rights Movement
- Branches of Government
- Basic Economic Concepts
- Women's Suffrage and the 19th Amendment
- The American Revolution
- Explorers
- The Olympics
- Underground Railroad
- Forms of Government: Democracy, Monarchy, & Oligarchy & More
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Egypt
- Native Americans
- Indian Removal & the Trail of Tears
- Inventors & Inventions
- Map Skills
- Westward Expansion
- Communities
- Colonial America
- Key Events Of World War I
- Ancient Civilizations
- Political Parties & Elections
- Environmental Issues Around The World
- Personal Finance

Science Titles:

- Habitats
- States of Matter
- Cell Structure
- Weather
- Water Cycle
- Energy
- Solar System
- Sound
- Mammals
- Light
- Rocks and Minerals
- Oceans
- Heredity & Genetics
- Magnetism
- Natural Resources
- Ecosystems
- Force & Motion
- History of the Earth
- Life Cycles
- Wave Properties
- Landforms
- Classification of Organisms
- Electricity
- The Scientific Method
- Space Science
- The Human Body
- Environmental Science
- Health & Nutrition
- Chemical Reactions
- Plants

COMMON CORE Lessons & Activities

Are you expected to change how you teach because of new CCSS for English Language Arts & new CCSS for Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies and Science?

Are you expected to continue to meet existing science and social studies standards, AND integrate new, more rigorous expectations for reading, writing, analysis, inference, and more into your daily instruction?

This series of 48+ little books is a **HUGE** help!

Common
Core at an
Uncommon
Value!

Supplement the resources you already have by choosing the books in this series that meet the science and social studies topics you teach. Each book will provide you with ready-to-use reproducible pages that are the exact kinds of Common Core lessons and activities you need to meet the new added requirements of Common Core!

**"You'll want these for
every topic you teach!"**

-Amy Johnson, Common Core Specialist

**You don't have to
start from scratch.**

**This brand new series
meets Common Core**

**State Standards for ELA + Common Core State Standards for
Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies and Science!**