1. **CIVILIZATIONS** are complex societies that have cities, organized government, art, class divisions, religion, and writing system.
2. Early civilizations started in river valleys because of the fertile soil that was good for growing crops for large amounts of people. Name **2** things the area and rivers also provided for help in sustaining civilizations.

FISH, FRESHWATER

1. Why did early civilizations form government?

**TO KEEP THINGS ORGANIZED ABOUT COMMON ISSUES -**

**FOOD SUPPLIES AND BUILDING PROJECTS, ETC**

1. Mesopotamia was known as the “land between the rivers,” a name that was given by the Greeks. What 2 rivers are they talking about?

**TIGRIS AND EUPHRATES**

1. What present day country would you find ancient Mesopotamia located in?

**IRAQ**

1. Irrigation. What is it? Why is it important?

- BRINGING OF WATER TO CROPS

- FARMERS NO LONGER HAD TO RELY COMPLETELY ON WEATHER/RAIN

1. Was Sumer classified as a city – state, region, or village?

**REGION**

1. Explain/define city – state. Did all city – states get along?

* **CITY AND ITS SURROUNDING LANDS**
* **NO**
* **CONSTANTLY AT WAR/FIGHTING EACH OTHER**

1. What did most people living in the Sumer region do?

**FARMERS**

1. What did Sumerians use for their main building material? Why?

**RIVER MUD - STONE/WOOD WERE IN SHORT SUPPLY**

1. When it came to religion, did the Sumerians believe in 1 god, many gods, or no gods?

**MANY GODS (*POLYTHEISM)***

1. What is a ziggurat?

**GRAND TEMPLE IN CITY-STATES FOR CHIEF GOD**

* **“MOUNTAIN OF GOD”**
* **“HILL OF HEAVEN”**

1. **GODS** and **GODDESSES** controlled much the land before kings rose to power and ran the government.
2. In the region known as Sumer, there was a class system in place. *How many* classes were there, *what* were they, and *who* belonged to each class?

**UPPER - KINGS, PRIESTS, GOVT OFFICIALS**

**MIDDLE - ARTISANS, MERCHANTS, FARMERS, FISHERS**

**LOWER - ENSLAVED PEOPLE, POWS, PEOPLE PAYING OFF DEBT**

1. What were the roles of men at this time? What were they allowed to do?

* HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD
* COULD GO TO SCHOOL

1. What were the roles of women at this time? What were they allowed to/could they do?

* STAYED HOME
* COULD BUY AND SELL PROPERTY

1. **SCRIBES** or record keepers that held honored positions in society and eventually went on to become judges or political leaders. Could women hold this position/skill/job?
2. The oldest known story comes from this area. What is it called and what is it about?

**“*EPIC OF GILGAMESH” - HE IS A KING WHO TRAVELS THE WORLD WITH A FRIEND DOING GOOD DEEDS. WHEN HIS FRIEND DIES, HE SEARCHES FOR A WAY TO LIVE FOREVER. HE LEARNS ONLY GODS CAN***

1. List and explain the importance of **3** important inventions from this area.

* WAGON WHEEL
* PLOW
* SAILBOAT
* MATH/NUMBERS (SEE BELOW)

1. List and explain the importance of 2 – 3 major math ideas they came up with.

* NUMBER SYSTEM BASED ON 60 (MINUTE, HOUR), 360 CIRCLE
* GEOMETRY (TO MEASURE FIELDS, BUILD BUILDINGS)
* 12 MONTH CALENDAR - BASED ON MOON CYCLE

1. Who was Sargon? Why is he important?

* **KING OF AKKADIANS, LATER CONQUERED MESOPOTAMIA**
* **SET UP WORLD’S FIRST EMPIRE!!!**

1. Who was Hammurabi? Why was he important?

* KING OF BABYLON
* CODE OF LAWS (FORCED EVERYONE TO FOLLOW SAME RULES/LAWS)
  + INFLUENCED GREEK AND ROMAN LAW => TODAY'S LAWS