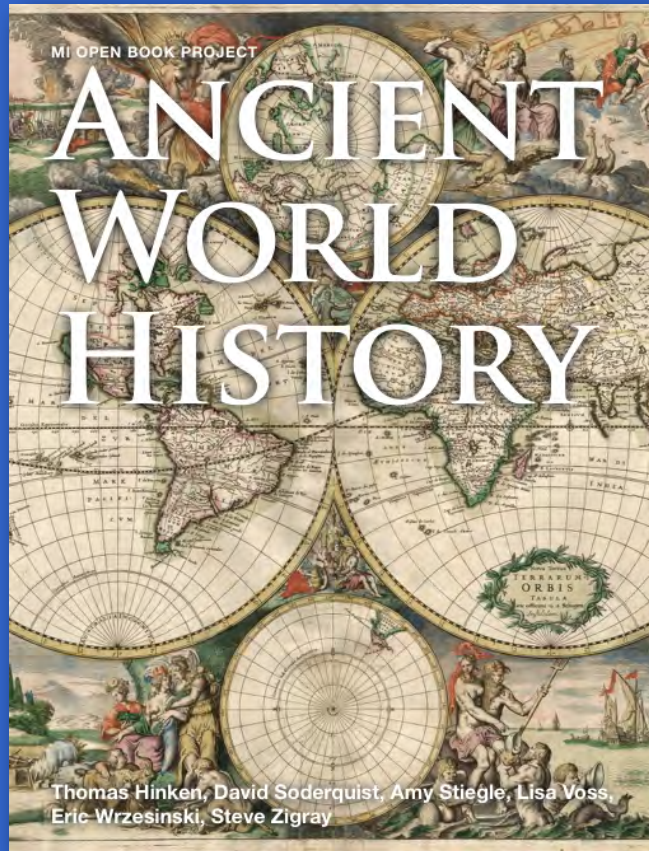


MI OPEN BOOK PROJECT

# ANCIENT WORLD HISTORY

Thomas Hinken, David Soderquist, Amy Striegle, Lisa  
Voss, Eric Wrzesinski, Steve Zigray





This is version 1.1.4 of this resource, released in August 2018.

Information on the latest version and updates are available on the project homepage: <http://textbooks.wmisd.org/dashboard.html>



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**OPEN BOOK PROJECT**



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Tom teaches world geography and history at NBC Middle School in Montague. A graduate of the Defense Language Institute, Tom served as an Arabic Linguist in the U.S Air Force before receiving both bachelors and masters degrees from Grand Valley State University. He is currently pursuing Masters in Education Technology from MSU. Along with teaching Tom is also the advisor for the NBC Robotic club and the student leadership organization. When away from school Tom and his wife Kristin love to travel and spend time outdoors; biking, hik-

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**For the Past 11 years David has taught 6-8 grade Social Studies for Three Rivers Middle School. He serves as Department Head, School Improvement Member and Social Studies Rep for his area. Over the past few years he has completed his Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction and become a state recognized Instructional Coach.**



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Amy has been teaching 7th grade Social Studies and Economics at Hamilton Middle School for 17 years. She has a BA in Geography/ Social Studies and a Masters Degree in Middle School Education both from Western Michigan University. She is also a PASST assessment participant and the Social Studies Department Chair. When not in the classroom she enjoys traveling with her husband Dan.







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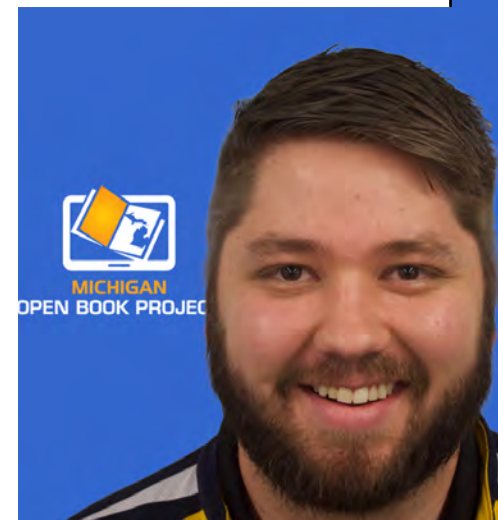
Lisa Voss has been teaching at Holland's East K-7 since 1993 working with students in grades 5-8. She enjoys teaching adolescents to be global thinkers in her geography and world studies classes. Teaching in Holland has been fulfilling and challenging in so many ways for Mrs. Voss. She studied education and trained at Michigan State University and then earned her masters degree at Grand Valley State University. She starting teaching elementary social studies content and methods to aspiring teachers for Hope College's Education Department in 2010. Lisa and her husband Jon have four sons and they live in Zeeland.

### **Eric Wrzesinski**

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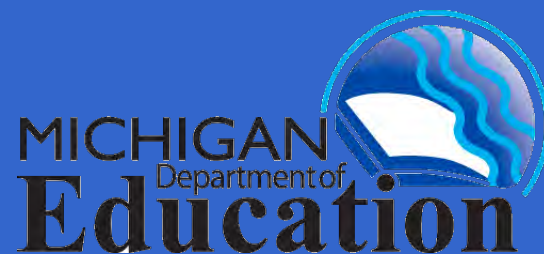
The Michigan Open Book Project Team would like to thank the following individuals for their help in reviewing some content in the book and guiding the development process.

Eric Hemenway - Director of Repatriation, Archives and Records, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians

Jim Cameron, Michigan Department of Education



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## David Klemm

### Editor

*Muskegon Area Intermediate School District*

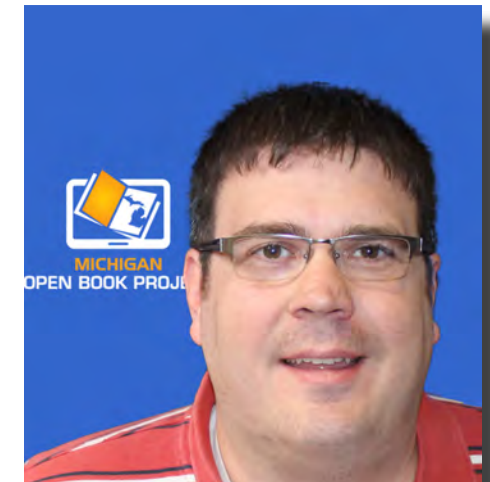
David Klemm is the Social Studies and Special Projects Consultant for the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD), serving 12 local school districts and numerous charters and private schools. While spending most of his time with the Social Sciences, he also works with Art, Music, World Language and Physical Education teachers. He has successfully directed two Teaching American History grants, coordinated We the People and Project Citizen programs, developed companion materials for the award-winning film documenting African-American migration to the Muskegon area, "Up from the Bottoms: The Search for the American Dream," worked with community development partners including the Michigan Humanities Council's Prime Time Family Reading Program, made numerous state and national presentations and worked with individual schools and teachers on curriculum, instruction and assessment. Mr. Klemm is a charter member of the Board of Directors of the Muskegon Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and currently serves on the National Council for the Social Studies Board of Directors. Prior to his current position at the Muskegon Area ISD, Mr. Klemm taught high school U. S. History for 15 years and served 3 years as

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Dave began his career teaching 8th grade United States History in Mesick, Michigan. After almost a decade in the classroom, he took a job at Wexford-Missaukee Intermediate School District (WMISD) as an Instructional Consultant for Social Studies. He is shared across 11 ISDs in Northern Michigan that form the Northern Michigan Learning Consortium. He completed his Masters in Educational Leadership through Central Michigan University in 2011 and is Co-Project Director of the Performance Assessments of Social Studies Thinking (PASST) Project in addition to his duties as the Project Manager for MI Open Book.





# What Factors and Conditions Are Most Significant for Creating Times of Innovation and Growth?

---

1. Why might humans want to move from an area?
2. What might attract people to a new place?
3. Why did humans start migrating out of Africa about 100,000 years ago?
4. What is meant by Paleolithic and Neolithic ways of life?
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## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

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## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE:

timeline  
 prehistory  
 fossils  
 migration

Before we can begin to study the first peoples, it is important to establish the concept of time. Historians use timelines to help aid in the understanding of the time frame in which the topic under study has taken place. The first step is to establish how the past is organized into sections of time. The organization of time into Eras is a choice made by historians. The sections of time that are being used in this book are divided by major turning points (big events that change humans forever) in history. This book is organizing the major Eras into the following four categories: **Prehistory**, Ancient History, Middle Ages, and Modern History. Below is a chart that breaks down the four Eras and major events that happened.

Era	Pre-History	Ancient History	Middle Ages	Modern History
Dates:	Beginning of time - ca 3,000	ca 3,000 BC - 500 AD	500 AD-1500 AD	1500 AD-To-day
Description and a few turning points	Before the invention of the written language  The first peoples, Domestication of Animals, Agricultural Revolution	Characteristics of civilization emerge  Writing invented  First civilizations, Fall of Rome	End of classical civilizations, the Dark Ages  The Plague, Rise of Islam	The age of Exploration and Technological Advancements  Conquest of Americas, Industrial Revolution, World Wars, Space Age

We use **timelines** to help keep things in chronological order. Timelines are a visual to help us "see" history so we can figure out how long ago an event happened, make connections between events, and make comparisons between events. Remember, how we organize time is a choice and even our calendar reflects a choice; one made nearly 450 years ago. The Gregorian calendar is used in much of the Western world and is based on the Christian religion. In other places around the world, calendars are written and time is measured differently.

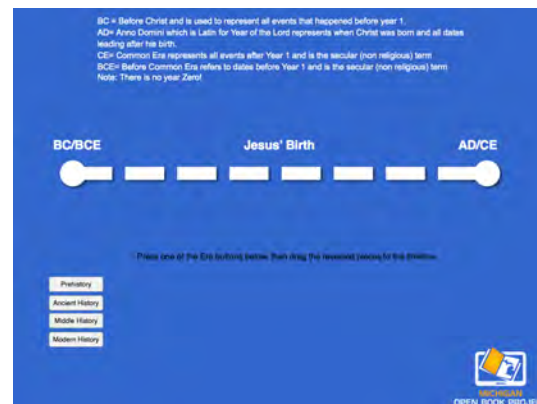
It is important for you to know that the labels used on our timelines are based on the Western Calendar.

### Interactive 2.1 A Variety of Calendars



You can read much more about different calendars here: <http://www.webexhibits.org/calendars/calendar.html>

### Interactive 2.2 Interactive Timeline



Use the pieces on this chart to create a timeline. Note: This calendar has no year Zero and, though that non-existent year represents the turning point in our timeline, it is not in the middle; there were many more years of history before it, than after it (so far!)

Remember, history is like solving a mystery; and when you learn new information, you need to make changes to your thinking. That has happened with the calendar, too. More recent investigation would indicate that the birth of Christ actually took place several years earlier than our calendar would indicate. Even the leading Christian scholars think the Christian calendar is slightly off. Don't worry; no one will be changing the timeline. If they did, you would have to change your birthdate!

### Interactive 2.3 Calendar Miscalculation



Read more here: <http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/headlines/2012/11/pope-says-christian-calendar-based-on-miscalculation/>

### How do we know?

Now that you have a handle on how to read time the era this unit is going to examine is Prehistory. This is a time of no written records which makes it really difficult to determine exactly what life was like then. The evidence that is used by scientists, anthropologists, and historians are fossils and artifacts that have been discovered throughout the world. As you may recall from chapter 1, fossils are the remains of living things (plants, animals, people). Artifacts are the remains of things that were made, not the remains of living things. The weapons and tools left behind by a human are considered artifacts, while the bones of that human would be considered fossils.



## Fossils:



Image source: [https://www.sciencenews.org/sites/default/files/main/articles/ts\\_LaBranca1\\_discovery\\_feat\\_free.jpg](https://www.sciencenews.org/sites/default/files/main/articles/ts_LaBranca1_discovery_feat_free.jpg)



Image source: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a5/Neolithic\\_arrowheads\\_Chariez.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a5/Neolithic_arrowheads_Chariez.jpg)

## Artifacts:



### Link to the Present

Did you know the arrowheads that are still being found today in North America are actually Stone Age artifacts?



Prehistory is popularly referred to as the Stone Age because early humans used stone tools. Evidence suggests that these first humans hunted and gathered their food, lived in small groups, lived in shelters, and used materials found in the environment. The oldest human fossils have been found in East Africa suggesting that this is where the first humans lived. Why did these first humans leave Africa?

### Prehistoric and Ancient Migration

Using geological evidence, **fossils**, and artifacts, many scientists believe that the earliest humans lived in Africa. From there humans eventually started moving out or **migrating**. Human migration is the movement by people from one place to another with the intentions of settling temporarily or permanently in the new location. About a hundred thousand years ago, humans started to move from Africa to other parts of the world. It did not take long to go from East Africa to nearby places like West Africa or Southwest Asia (see map on the next page) From there, they could go on to Southern Europe or Central Asia. It took longer to get to Northern Europe, East Asia, and Australia. It took the longest time to get to South America. People first had to cross from Asia to Alaska. Then they had to travel south through the entire length of both North and South America.

These are long distances, and it took a thousands of years and many generations of people. Migration was relatively easy in some places and hard in others. For example, moving through

grasslands or open forests is fairly easy. Travel is slower through dense forests. High mountains are hard to climb and can be very cold. Large deserts and oceans would be an even bigger problem. It is possible to walk from Africa all the way across Asia.

Unfortunately, Asia is separated from Australia and the Americas by huge bodies of water. Here, the story of human migration was aided by another fact -- climate change.

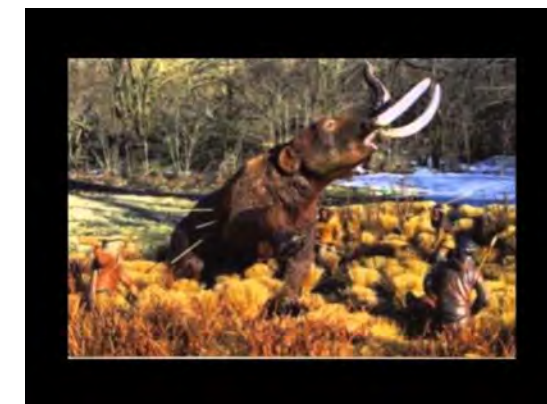
Today, the earth is fairly warm. There are only two large sheets of ice. One of these is on Greenland. The other is on Antarctica. Hundreds of high mountains have small glaciers on them. These do not add up to even a small fraction of the Greenland or Antarctic icecaps. Thousands of years ago, the climate was much colder. Ice sheets covered large parts of North America and Eurasia. The earth has a limited amount of water and with much more of it in the form of huge ice sheets, there was less in the ocean. As a result, the water level was hundreds of feet lower than today. This

### Interactive 2.4 Ice Sheets



For more information on Ice Sheets visit: <http://whyfiles.org/2014/melting-antarctic-ice-rising-seas-what-can-we-expect/>

### Interactive 2.5 Land Bridge Theory



Watch this short video to see this in action: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ziw\\_SmFKf\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ziw_SmFKf_g)



made it possible to walk on dry land from northeast Asia to Alaska.

People could also walk to many of the islands between China and Australia. In other cases, people could see the land on the other side of a narrow area of water. That made it easier to make a boat and float across to the other side. People did that and arrived in Australia about 50,000 years ago. Then, about 13,000 years ago, the climate began to get warmer. Glaciers melted and the oceans rose. Eventually, areas that had been land were covered by the oceans. The humans in the Americas and the islands of the South Pacific became isolated. Source: Michigan Geographic Alliance Phil Gersmehl 2015

### Why would humans migrate?

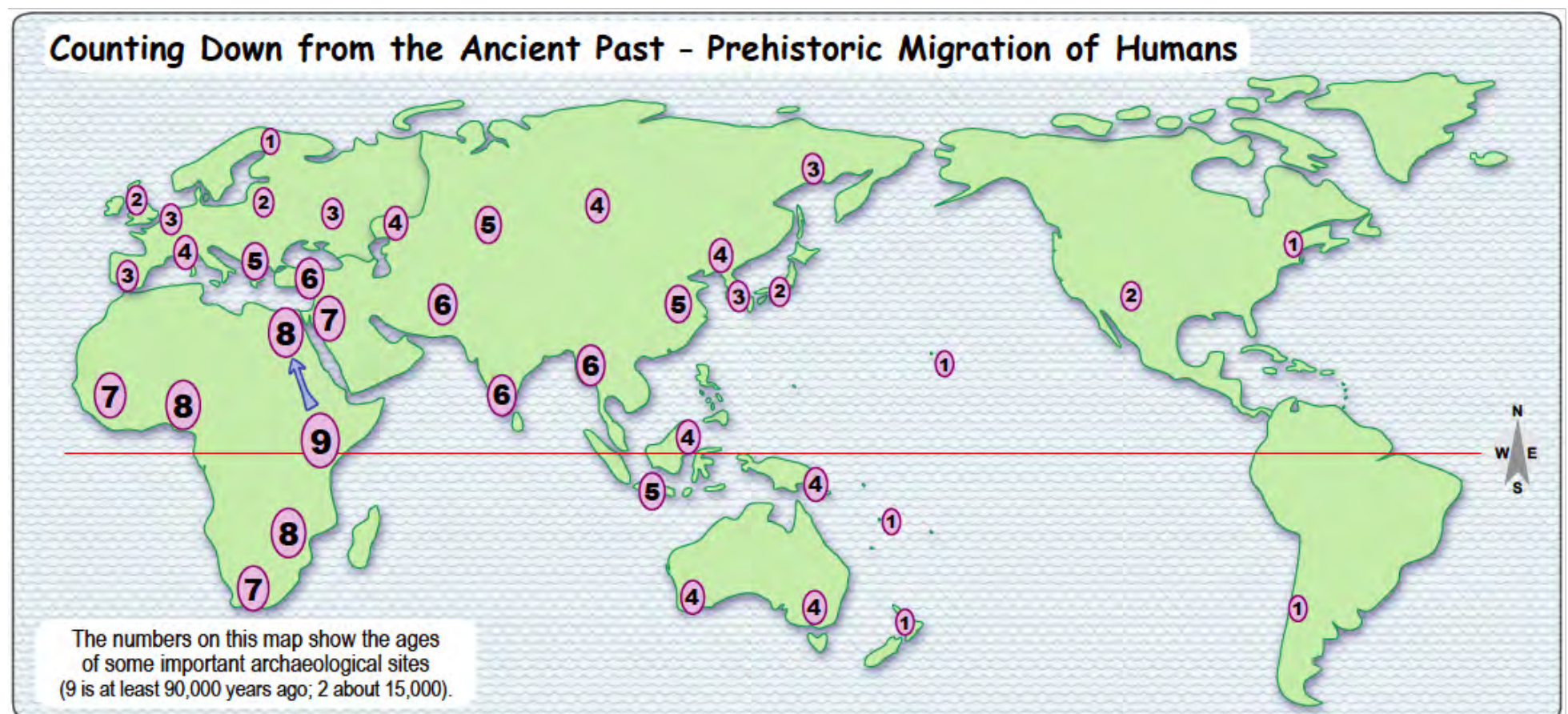
The reasons for early human migrations is a great mystery. There is evidence to suggest that climate changes may have caused the first peoples to move out of Africa. Other theories include: following migrating animals for food, searching for more

resources (food, water, shelter), fighting over resources resulting in groups separating, and the theory that humans simply went exploring. The factors that cause humans to migrate are referred to as push and pull factors -- circumstances that push someone out of one region and other circumstances that pull them to another region.

### Interactive 2.6



*Practice: You can finish this map by drawing arrows from older dates to more recent ones. The result is a visual picture of human migration for the last 130,000 years.*





Humans still migrate today and we can understand that migration better by thinking of the push/pull factors that are impacting them.

## Reasons For Migration



Image source: <http://www.slideshare.net/stevenheath148/migration-2008>



What are the modern day push/pull factors for human migration? War, poverty, persecutions, environmental effects, adventure.... How many of these might have motivated ancient human migrations as well?

**Interactive 2.7** Vocabulary Quizlet



*Practice the vocabulary from this section with this interactive widget.*



# What Do Archaeologists Know and How do they Know It?

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why might humans want to move from an area?
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## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE:

artifacts

As you read in the previous section, the first Era of history is called Prehistory and takes place before the written language was invented. So how do historians know what happened if there are no records? Scientists use fossils and **artifacts** found to help piece together what life was like during this time. The map below gives some examples of evidence that has been discovered around the world.

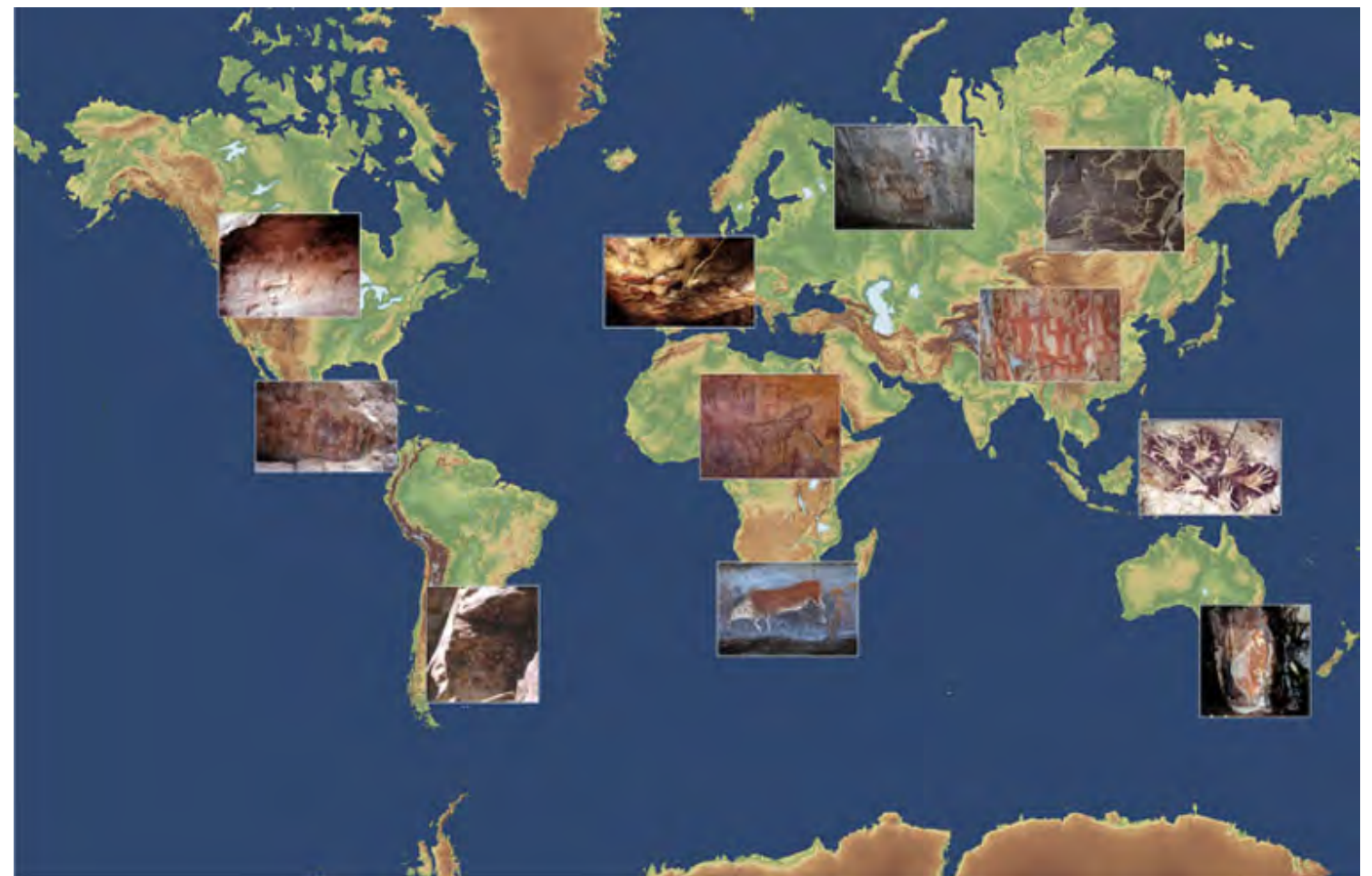


Image source: The World of Rock Art: its distribution around the globe



The importance and significance of this heritage can also be seen in the following list of the rock art sites included on UNESCO's list of world heritage. Today, there are people dedicated to preserving this ancient art so that all people can share in a part of their common history. You can see about their work and view some of these rock paintings in the widget (Interactive 2.8).

It is because of this evidence that scientists believe the first peoples began in East Africa-- because the oldest human fossils have been discovered there. Anthropologists determine the age of a fossil using a process called carbon dating.

One of the greatest human fossil discoveries was the Iceman which we used as an example in the first chapter. The Iceman had been preserved in a glacier since around 3300 BC. He was discovered by hikers in 1991 CE in Europe,

### Interactive 2.8 Rock Paintings



*You can learn about their work and view some of these rock paintings here . <http://www.prehistour.eu/>*

### Interactive 2.9 How Stuff Works - Carbon Dating



*Learn more here!*

high in the mountains along the border between Austria and Italy. He is the Europe's oldest natural mummy. Scientists even gave him a nickname: Otzi the Iceman. Otzi was an important scientific find because according to the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Italy, where Iceman can be seen,

“The Iceman is one of the oldest mummies in the world. However, it is not only his historical age that makes him particularly valuable for scientists but also the way in which he was mummified. Ötzi is a so-called 'wet mummy', i.e. one in which humidity is retained in individual cells. The body tissue is elastic and suitable for performing detailed scientific investigations. Moreover, he is a natural mummy, unaltered by burial rites or other interventions. The Iceman with his complete clothing and equipment provides a snapshot of Stone Age life in Europe” (2013).

### Interactive 2.10 Iceman Parody Video





Other great clues to prehistory are in the form of art. Artifacts found are often sculptures, jewelry, masks, and drawings. Go to this site (Interactive 2.11) and see how well you can analyze the mask artifact. What questions might you ask that will help you?

Cave Art has also been used to help understand life during prehistoric times as well. The map below shows several sites where Cave Art has been discovered. Go to the following site (Interactive 2.12) to see real examples. Use your questioning skills to think deeply about what you see.

Well it's back to the drawing board- we have new pieces and will have to rethink our puzzle. Prehistory will always be a mystery!

### **Interactive 2.11** Analyzing Artifacts



*Go to this site and see how well you can analyze the mask artifact. What questions might you ask that will help you?*

### **Interactive 2.12** Cave Art - Bradshaw Foundation



*Go to the following site to see real examples. Use your questioning skills to think deeply about what you see.*

### **Link to the present**

What happens when new artifacts and fossils are found that disrupt current theories? Remember in chapter 1 how historians need to be flexible and rethink their theories when new discoveries are made? Check this out.

### **Interactive 2.13** The Changing Human Story



*Scientists have discovered a new species of human ancestors deep in a South African cave, adding a baffling new branch to the family tree.*



# Environmental Effects on First Humans

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## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE:

ice age

During the Prehistoric Era there were multiple climate changes. One type of change is called the **Ice Age** which is a period of extreme cold. Scientists believe that there were five great Ice Ages with the most recent one ending around 10,000 years ago. During this particular Ice Age, the northern polar icecap moved so far south that most of North America was covered by ice, including all of Michigan. About 30 percent of the earth was covered in ice! Naturally, hunting and gathering was difficult during the Ice Ages. The first people had to adapt to their surroundings. Therefore these hunters and gatherers had very different environmental conditions to deal with. Life in the cold climates would have hunters and gatherers using animal hides to keep warm and hunting animals that were more suitable to live in cold climates, such as the Woolly Mammoth. This video will give you a little more explanation about why ice ages happen.

## Interactive 2.14 What is an Ice Age



*Learn more about an Ice Age in this video.*





Image source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mammoth\\_House\\_\(Replica\).JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mammoth_House_(Replica).JPG)



Image source: [https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woolly\\_mammoth](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woolly_mammoth)

Areas that were not covered in ice were still affected by the cold temperatures and would have determined the migration patterns of early animals and humans. Here is an example: During the time when sea level was low due to the ice buildup in the Northern Hemisphere, many of today's islands were connected to continents. New Guinea and Tasmania were part of "super-Australia." Three large islands of Indonesia – Sumatra, Java, and Borneo -- were connected to Asia. Using these "land bridges," animals and plants could move from continent to island and back. When the ice sheets melted, sea level went up. Different islands ended up with different plants and animals: Borneo has tigers and gorillas. These animals also live in Vietnam, India, and other countries of South and Southeast Asia. New Guinea has kangaroos and opossums. These animals also live in Australia.



Source: Michigan Geographic Alliance Phil Gersmehl 2015



Sulawesi has many strange animals. Nearly two-thirds of its mammals are found nowhere else in the world. This is because Sulawesi was not connected to either Asia or Australia. Many birds in Sulawesi, by contrast, are also seen in both Asia and Australia. Why? Because birds can fly. Crossing a little bit of ocean is no big deal. Australia is dry and far from other land. As a result, many of its plants are different from plants in other continents. Nearly all of the trees in Australia, for example, are in just one family -- the Eucalyptus family. Because Australia had a warmer climate during the Ice Ages, their environment affected them differently. They would have hunted animals that suited a warmer climate and their shelters would have been made from different materials than the Northern Hemispheric hunters and gatherers.



Image source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous\\_architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_architecture)



# Who Were The First Peoples?

### QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why might humans want to move from an area?
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### TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE:

Paleolithic

Neolithic

Nomadic

The Prehistory Period was broken into the **Paleolithic** (Old Stone Age) and the **Neolithic** (New Stone Age). This period of time is called the Stone Age because most of the tools used by these first peoples were made of stone. During the Paleolithic time period, the early humans used these simple tools made from stone, and others made from animal bone, and ivory, to hunt, skin, and butcher animals. These first tools were also used to dig up roots, cut through wood and bones, and

### How Stone Age Humans Made Hand Axes



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Ax: Paleolithic hand axes. Image. Encyclopædia Britannica. Web. 15 Jun. 2016. <<http://media1.school.eb.com/eb-media/73/91873-050-4B23F18E.jpg>>.



as weapons. These tools have been found all over the world, but the oldest have been found in East Africa. It is important to note that this time period has different starting points because regions around the world started the technology of making tools at different times. This shouldn't be surprising; we have already seen how animal and plant life developed differently in different places.

The first Paleolithic people hunted their food and gathered berries, nuts, and other plants from the environment. Many of these first people also found their food supplies by fishing. These first peoples were **nomadic** -- moving from place to place finding food, water, and shelters. These nomadic groups were often very small due to a lack of a stable food supply and the need to constantly be on the move to survive. So how did we get to where we are today? It started with getting a stable food supply!



# The First Farmers and Agricultural Revolution

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

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## TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE:

agriculture

domesticate

irrigation

The Paleolithic Era ended when humans invented farming. Again, like the development of tools, this happened at different times in different places. Up to this point humans would hunt and gather their food. So why did some humans stop? Why would our ancestors decide to settle in one place and invent farming? Many scientists believe that the climate began to warm up and this change in climate made the discovery of growing plants simple. With this climate change, plants began to flourish. People no longer needed to wander for food. With this invention of farming, humans could now start to settle in one place and stop needing their nomadic lifestyle. They had, as the following video states, “everything they needed in one place.”

The process of planting seed and harvesting crops is called **agriculture**. This turning point in History is called the Agricultural Revolution and begins the Neolithic or New Stone Age.

The switch from hunting and gathering to farming did not happen all at once in all areas of the world, so some historians will refer to this transition period as the Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age. During the Agricultural

## Interactive 2.15 From Hunters and Gatherers to Farmers



*With this invention of farming humans could now start to settle in one place and stop needing their nomadic lifestyle. They had, as the following video state, “everything they needed in one place.”*





Image source: [https://c2.staticflickr.com/6/5100/5512116621\\_c14bc2762c\\_b.jpg](https://c2.staticflickr.com/6/5100/5512116621_c14bc2762c_b.jpg)

Revolution (Neolithic Age) many changes took place. The biggest changes include: the settling of people into villages, invention of better tools, **domestication** of plants and animals, and the invention of **irrigation**. Archaeological evidence suggests that the very first farming began in a region of Southwest Asia called the “Fertile Crescent.” See map above.

It is important to note that even though the word fertile infers that this area was full of great farmland, that was hardly the case. This land was mostly arid (dry) and had rocky soil. So how did it become the first agricultural center? Because of the rivers that often flooded. Southwest Asia has a short rainy season in winter. Fortunately, some snow falls on the mountains. It melted and made rivers flood in the spring. The extra water spread over any low land close to the river.

To most modern people, floods are bad. In ancient times, however, floods in many places were considered good because they were predictable; that is, they occurred at the same times every year and people could learn just how high the water would rise. Over time, a flooding river makes a floodplain by depositing mud on low land near the river. Even more importantly, floods make the soil softer and much easier to work. Floods also fill the ground with water. People can get this water later by digging wells. All of this can help subsistence farmers (people who grow food just for themselves).

If people settle in one place, get organized, and work together, however, they can do even more. They can build canals or pipes to carry water from wells and rivers to their fields. They can water their crops when they need to as long as their river or well stays full of water. This is called irrigation. Irrigation is the process of adding water to fields. It can improve yields by keeping crops from drying out during times when it does not rain. Building an

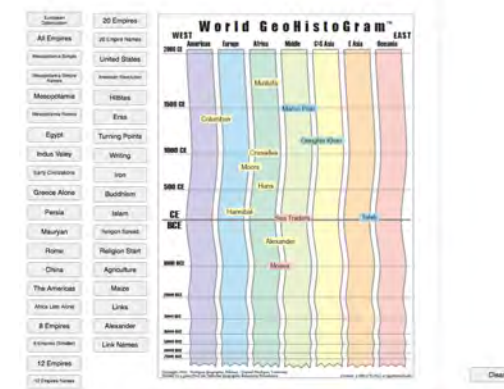


irrigation system takes a lot of skill and effort. People have to be organized. The payoff, however, is huge -- irrigation can greatly increase food production. You might even be able to grow more than you need.

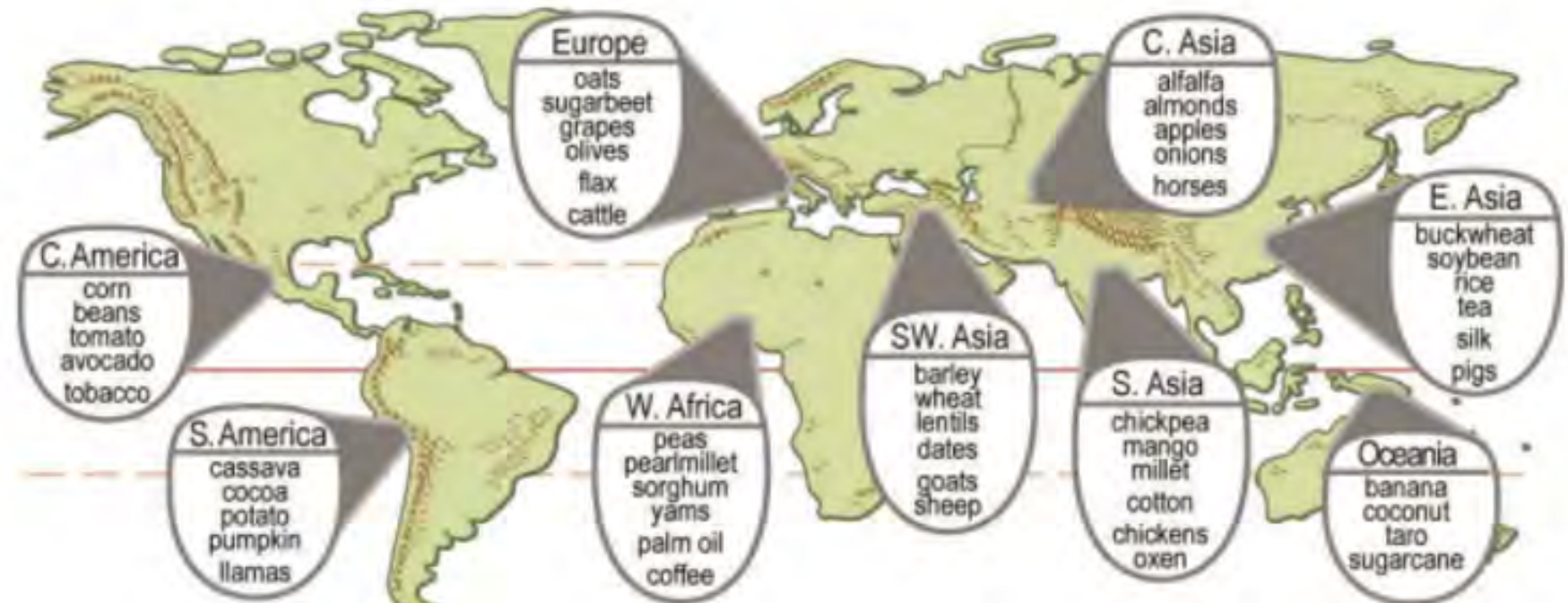
This fact is the reason why some people say that irrigation was the foundation for the first human civilizations and the most important factor in its development. What do you think? One geographic fact is clear : Many early civilizations started near rivers. The rivers provide a steady supply of water, fertile soil from predictable flooding, and attracted animals. The surrounding area might be desert but near the river you had everything you needed. Why go anywhere else?

People actually learned how to domesticate plants and animals in several different places in the ancient world, not just in the Fertile Crescent. The plants that people used as resources, however, were different in different parts of the world (see map). So how did the environment affect early cities?

## Interactive 2.16 World GeoHistogram



Fire up the GeoHistogram and click on the button for “Agriculture” What do you notice about when and where the development of agriculture took hold?



Source: Michigan Geographic Alliance Phil Gersmehl 2015



# The First Towns

## QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

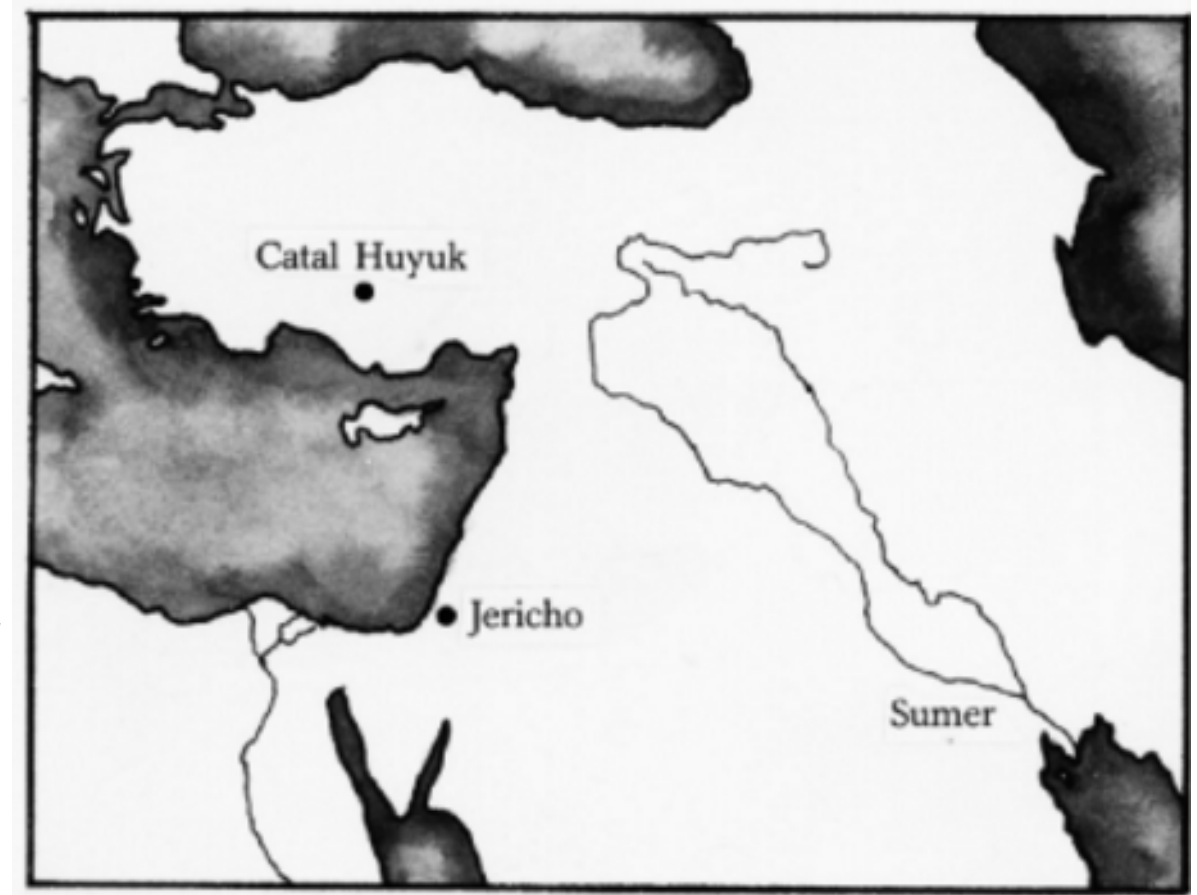
1. Why might humans want to move from an area?
2. What might attract people to a new place?
3. Why did humans start migrating out of Africa about 100,000 years ago?
4. What is meant by Paleolithic and Neolithic ways of life?
5. How have Paleolithic and Neolithic patterns of life differed between the people of Africa Western Europe, Asia, and North America?
6. What benefits did early human farmers gain over hunter/gatherers?
7. How did the natural environment affect the places early human farmers chose to live?
8. What was the relationship between stable food supplies and the development of settlements?

During the Neolithic Age, people were now settling into larger groups. Because they no longer needed to hunt and gather food but could raise livestock and grow crops, they started to have a surplus of food which led to larger populations. One of these early village communities is called Catal Huyuk (Çatalhöyük).

### Interactive 2.17 Catal Huyuk



Click on the link to learn more about the excavation of this first village community. <http://www.smm.org/catal/>



Take a look at the map with three villages labeled on it. Why do you think these villages were settled here?



Catal Huyuk is located in the present-day country of Turkey. Another early settlement was located in Jericho in present-day Israel.

The invention of farming allowed first farming communities to have an abundance of food making life easier to survive for people during this time. With a surplus of food and more permanent shelters, people could now concentrate on new technology. For example, Catal Huyuk produced many kinds of local goods (suggesting the villagers had different jobs; for example, pottery makers) and goods from elsewhere (suggesting trade).

These early farmers also invented better farming techniques and tools like the plow, the wheel which helped with transporting goods, and the loom which allowed people to weave clothing. Other tools were also created: measurements of time, calendars, and canals for irrigation. The Neolithic Age ended with the invention of metal tools, and thus begins the Era of Ancient History. During the Ancient History Era the Very first city-states (civilizations) appear. Below is a map of these first ancient river civilizations.

## Interactive 2.18 Jericho



*Learn More About Jericho in this article from Khan Academy*

### Map of early civilizations.

Early civilizations that relied on flooding rivers (modern names in parentheses):

1. Mesopotamia (Iraq)
2. Nile (Egypt)
3. Huang (China)
4. Indus (Pakistan)
5. Ganges (India)
6. Yangtze
8. Peru
10. Niger (West Africa)
12. Aztec (Mexico)

Ones that did not:

7. Minoan
9. New Guinea
11. Inca



The numbers go in order from oldest to most recent.



## Section 7

# Pastoralism

### QUESTIONS TO GUIDE INQUIRY

1. Why might humans want to move from an area?
2. What might attract people to a new place?
3. Why did humans start migrating out of Africa about 100,000 years ago?
4. What is meant by Paleolithic and Neolithic ways of life?
5. How have Paleolithic and Neolithic patterns of life differed between the people of Africa Western Europe, Asia, and North America?
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8. What was the relationship between stable food supplies and the development of settlements?

### TERMS, PLACES, PEOPLE:

pastoralism

Not all people decided to settle into village communities and farm but instead chose to continue to hunt and gather. Some of their descendants are still hunting and gathering today.

The "Bushmen" or "San" are the oldest inhabitants of southern Africa. They are hunter-gatherers and their home is the Kalahari desert.



Two men of the Bushmen tribe in Botswana making fire by rubbing sticks together. Image source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/deepblue66/5434630216>

Others decided to take advantage of the harsher lands that were nearly impossible to farm and raise animals that flourished in that habitat. These groups are called **Pastoralists**.

Pastoralists adapted to harsh conditions all over the world. In the northern cold



tundra where reindeer flourish, humans adapted to the cold using the reindeer for food, transportation, and warmth. In the dry deserts of Africa and Asia, humans could use camels to help them survive. Dry grasslands that were poor for farming made great pastures for cattle, sheep, and horses.

Probably the most famous pastoralists in history were the nomadic herders of the Eurasian steppes (prairies). Generally termed 'horse peoples', these nomadic pastoralists, often appear in history as invaders of Europe, the Middle East and China. The generic title encompasses the ethnic groups inhabiting the steppes of Central Asia, Mongolia, and what is now Russia. They domesticated the horse, and their economy and culture emphasized horse breeding, horse riding and a pastoral economy in general.

Read this quote that describes the pastoralists of Central Asia.

“The culture of the central Asian nomads is summed up in one word: HORSE. They were the first people in the world to climb on the back of a horse and learn to ride. Estimates of when they achieved this feat range from 4200 BC to 900 BC. From that moment, there was no looking back. They lived in the saddle. They had no buildings, no houses, no farms, no towns—they had no home and they did not want one. They were nomads. They spent their lives on their horses, roaming wild and free over the endless steppe. They put their children astride horses when they could barely even walk to start learning to ride. They put little bows and arrows in their children's hands as soon as they could grip something. Writers in the civilized cultures who observed the nomads stressed that these people did everything on horseback, to include performing bodily functions.

The nomads obtained their food by hunting and from their livestock. They had great herds of cattle, sheep, goats, camels, and, of course, extra horses. They subsisted on meat and dairy products and had the physiques to prove it. At times of crisis, which were frequent on the unforgiving steppe, they would make a small incision in a vein in their horse's neck and slurp a little of its blood while it obediently stood there.”

Stephen W. Richey. The Nomadic Horse People of Central Asia

<http://www.horsenomads.info/introduction.html>

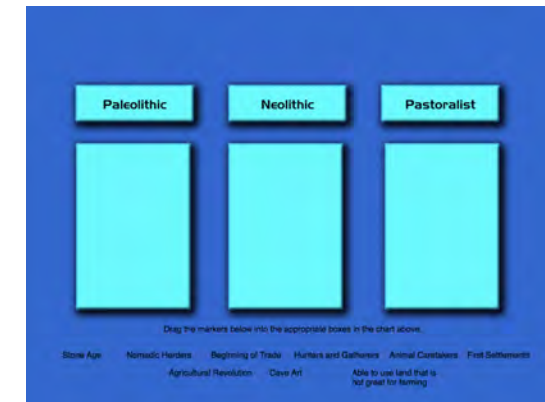


Again, similar to the descendants of hunters and gatherers, the descendants of these first nomadic herders are still around today. They live at the same time we do, yet, in a sense, they give us a glimpse into the past.



Image source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurasian\\_Steppe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurasian_Steppe)

## Interactive 2.19 Chapter Review



*Review your knowledge of Paleolithic, Neolithic, and Pastoral peoples*



Now that you've finished this chapter, take a stab at answering the chapter inquiry question: What Factors and Conditions Are Most Significant for Creating Times of Innovation and Growth?