Teachers' Curriculum Institute
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Welcome to *History Alive! The Ancient World*

*History Alive! The Ancient World* was developed by middle school teachers at Teachers’ Curriculum Institute (TCI). We, Bert Bower and Jim Lobdell, are two former high school teachers who started TCI. Our goal is to help students like you succeed in learning about history in a way that is fun and exciting.

With the help of teachers from around the nation, we’ve created the TCI Approach to learning. This chapter explains how the TCI Approach will make ancient world history come alive for you.

The TCI Approach has three main parts. First, during class you’ll be involved in a lot of exciting activities. For example, you’ll learn about early humans by crawling into a “cave” to bring out ancient artifacts. You’ll travel the famous Silk Road to learn about ancient China’s silk trade. You’ll explore Greek civilization by taking a walking tour of ancient Athens. Every lesson is built around an activity like these.

Second, during and after these activities, you get to read this book. You’ll discover that your reading connects closely to the activities that you experience. We’ve worked hard to make the book interesting and easy to follow.

Third, during each lesson you’ll write about your learning in an Interactive Student Notebook. You’ll end up with your very own personal account of ancient world history.

With the TCI Approach, you’ll not only learn more about history than ever before, but you’ll have fun doing it. Let’s take a closer look at how this approach will help you learn ancient world history.
Researchers have found that students learn best when they are given the opportunity to use their multiple intelligences, work cooperatively with their peers, and build on what they already know.

**Theory-Based, Active Instruction**

*History Alive! The Ancient World* is probably unlike any other history program you have ever encountered. Perhaps you have been in history classes where you listen to the teacher and then read a textbook and answer chapter questions. Does this approach make you excited about learning history? Most students would say no, and educational researchers would tend to agree. Researchers have discovered new ways of reaching all students in the diverse classroom. This program relies on three of their theories.

**Students learn best through multiple intelligences.** Howard Gardner, an educational researcher, discovered that people use their brains in very different ways to learn the same fact or concept. From this discovery, he created a theory called multiple intelligences. There are at least seven intelligences. You can think of them as different ways of being smart—with words, with pictures, with numbers, with people, with your body, with music and rhythms, and with who you are. Everyone has multiple intelligences. Using one or more of these ways of being smart can make learning easier.

**Cooperative interaction increases learning gains.** Through research, Elizabeth Cohen discovered that students learn more when they interact by working in groups with others. Interactive learning includes working with your classmates in many kinds of activities. You’ll work in groups, do role plays, and create simulations. This kind of learning requires you and your classmates to share your ideas and work together well.

**All students can learn via the spiral curriculum.** Researcher Jerome Bruner believed that learning isn’t just up to students. Teachers need to make learning happen for all students. Bruner believed, as the TCI Approach does, that all students can learn through a process of step-by-step discovery. This process is known as a spiral curriculum.

These three theories are the foundation of the TCI Approach. Putting them into practice in *History Alive! The Ancient World* gives you what you need to succeed.
Standards-Based Content

A lot of people care about what you are learning in history. These people include your parents, your school administrators, your teachers, and even your state and national elected officials. In fact, if you’re like students in most states, you take tests at the end of the year to measure your progress.

Most end-of-year tests are based on standards. Standards are the key pieces of information about history that elected officials think are important for you to remember. When you read most standards, you might scratch your head and think, “These seem really hard to understand, and they’re probably even harder to learn and remember.” There’s no need to worry about that with History Alive! The Ancient World. Every lesson is based on standards. So every day, while you’re having fun learning ancient history, you are also learning key standards.

You’ll be recording everything you learn in your Interactive Student Notebook. When it’s time to prepare for tests, your notebook will make it easy to review all the standards you’ve learned.

In fact, students across the nation using the TCI Approach are getting better scores than ever on standardized tests. A big reason for this success is that the TCI Approach is based on interactive learning. That means you won’t just read about history. You’ll be actively involved in experiencing it and recording what you learn. Let’s take a look at what you’ll do during each part of a lesson with the TCI Approach.
Preview Assignments

With the TCI Approach, learning starts even before you begin studying. Most of the lessons in *History Alive! The Ancient World* begin with a Preview assignment. Previews are short assignments that you complete in your Interactive Student Notebook. They allow you to make a personal connection to what you will study.

After you complete a Preview assignment, your teacher will hold a brief class discussion. Several students will share their answers. Your teacher will then reveal how the assignment "previews" what is to come in the lesson.

Here are some examples of the kinds of Preview assignments you will complete:

- **Before studying the early civilization of Sumer in Chapter 5,** you will complete a spoke diagram. You'll use the diagram to show what you think are the characteristics of a civilization.

- **Before studying ancient Egypt’s social pyramid in Chapter 9,** you’ll draw a social pyramid for your school. You will arrange individuals and groups on your pyramid, including students, the principal, teachers, and the student council.

- **Before learning about the golden age of India’s Gupta Empire in Chapter 18,** you will write a paragraph about a “golden age” (a time of special accomplishment) in your own life.

- **Before learning about Alexander the Great in Chapter 30,** you will draw a figure to represent a good leader. You’ll use the figure to show five qualities that you believe make a good leader.

Preview assignments like these will spark your interest and get you ready to tackle new concepts. Next come the exciting activities that make up the heart of each lesson. As you’re about to see, these activities draw on many ways of being smart—our multiple intelligences.
Multiple-Intelligence Teaching Strategies

The teaching strategies in the TCI Approach are based on hands-on learning. Every lesson in *History Alive! The Ancient World* is built around a fun and exciting activity. We mentioned some examples earlier. Here are some other things you and your classmates will do to experience ancient history:

- For Chapter 7, you'll use your bodies to model the physical geography of ancient Egypt, Kush, and Canaan.
- For Chapter 14, you'll pretend to be archeologists digging up the ancient Indian city of Mohenjodaro.
- For Chapter 35, you'll take a journey back in time to experience life as a teenager during the Roman Empire.

Activities like these will challenge you to use your multiple intelligences. Think about times when learning new things has been easier for you. Were you looking at pictures about the new ideas? Were you writing about them? Does acting out an event help you to better understand what happened? Studying history is a lot easier and more fun when you learn new ideas in ways that best suit your learning styles. Here's a list of seven different intelligences:

- Linguistic (word smart)
- Logical-mathematical (number/reasoning smart)
- Spatial (picture smart)
- Body-kinesthetic (body smart)
- Musical (music smart)
- Interpersonal (people smart)
- Intrapersonal (self smart)

While you're engaged in fun and exciting activities, you'll also be reading this book to learn more about ancient history. The next page explains why this book is so easy to read.
Considerate Text

The TCI Approach is all about being successful and having fun while you learn. You’re about to discover that reading *History Alive! The Ancient World* is interesting to read and easy to understand. That’s because this book is “reader friendly,” which is another of saying that it makes readers want to read it. Some people call this *considerate text*. The writers of this book considered your needs as a reader and made sure you would have fun reading.

Here are some of the ways this book is considerate of all levels of readers:

- Each chapter is organized around key concepts. Introduction and summary sections point out the big ideas in the chapter.
- Each chapter begins with a graphic organizer—a picture that represents the main ideas of the chapter. The graphic organizer also appears in the Reading Notes in your Interactive Student Notebook. It will help you remember key ideas long after you’ve read the chapter.
- Short chapters make it easier for you to understand and remember what each one is about.
- Each section has a clear focus and a subtitle that provides an outline for your reading. Research shows that presenting new information in easy-to-manage chunks makes it easier to understand.
- Important new words are in bold type. These words are defined in the margins and in the Glossary at the back of the book.
- Photos and illustrations provide additional information about the topic on the page. A great way to check your understanding is to ask yourself, “How does this picture show what I just read?”

Most importantly, *History Alive! The Ancient World* is as exciting to read as a good story. The next section explains a special way of taking notes that will help you remember what you read.
Graphically Organized Reading Notes

Note taking is very important in the TCI Approach. As you read this book, you’ll complete Reading Notes in your Interactive Student Notebook. You’ll answer important questions, find main ideas, and connect new ideas to what you already know.

Your Reading Notes will leave you with a picture in your mind of each chapter’s key ideas. The graphic organizers at the start of each chapter will help be a visual reminder of what you read. In your Reading Notes, you’ll use those same graphic organizers to record key ideas. For example, in Chapter 1, you’ll be taking notes on an illustration of a cave wall. Your notes will show archeologists’ hypotheses (guesses) about some ancient paintings you discover in a cave. For Chapter 16, you will take notes on an illustrated path. The path represents the experiences of Prince Siddhartha, the founder of Buddhism. For Chapter 33, you will take notes on and around a drawing of a pan balance. You’ll use the balance to show how political power in the Roman Republic was divided between two key groups, patricians and plebeians.

Completing your Reading Notes will help you study in two ways. First, it will encourage you to think carefully about what you read. Second, recording key ideas will help you remember them for a long time.

There’s one more part of the TCI Approach that will help you remember the important ideas you are learning. Read the next page to find out out.
In Processing assignments, you’ll show that you understand the new ideas of the lesson.

**Processing Assignments**

At the end of each lesson, you’ll complete a Processing assignment in your Interactive Student Notebook. Here you’ll show that you understand the key concepts of the lesson.

These pages encourage you to relate ideas to one another. You’ll make connections between the past and present. You’ll show your understanding of concepts by creating illustrations, diagrams, flowcharts, poetry, and cartoons. As one student told us, “It’s really cool to have a place in our notebooks where we can record our own ideas. It makes learning history a lot more fun.”

Here are some examples of the kinds of Processing assignments you’ll complete:

- In Chapter 13, you will learn how the physical geography of India affected where people chose to settle. In the Processing assignment, you’ll create a real estate ad to convince people to settle in a desirable region.

- For Chapter 20, you will dig up an ancient tomb to learn about China’s Shang dynasty. In the Processing assignment, you’ll decorate a bronze vessel by drawing two artifacts you found. Then you’ll write a paragraph explaining what each artifact shows about the Shang dynasty.

- In Chapter 34, you will study the growth of the Roman Empire. In the Processing assignment, you’ll write a poem using key terms to praise the growth of the empire.

Students across the country report that their Processing assignments have helped them understand and remember what they have learned. As a result, they are earning higher test scores.
Multiple-Intelligence Assessments

Do you dread taking chapter and unit tests? If so, maybe you feel that most tests don't let you show what you've learned. The tests for History Alive! The Ancient World are different. They let you show how well you understand each lesson's key ideas.

These tests also allow you to use your multiple intelligences. Each test has some of the usual multiple-choice questions. These will help prepare you for taking more formal tests. But other parts of the assessments will challenge you to use more than just your "word smart" intelligence. They'll give you a chance to shine if you are good in other areas, such as reading maps, using charts and graphs, drawing, understanding music, or analyzing historical paintings. You may also be asked to show how well you read. You'll be invited to express your ideas and your understanding of historical events in writing, too.

The secret to doing well on tests is preparation. You have the perfect tool for this purpose: your Interactive Student Notebook. Right there on those pages are your notes about all the key ideas in each chapter. Students who study their Reading Notes and Processing assignments before a test usually earn good test scores.

Success on tests is important, but the most important thing of all is learning. We've designed our tests not just to assess your understanding but to help you remember key ideas. That's because the lessons you learn from ancient history can help you make sense of your world and guide your future decisions. We hope that what you learn in History Alive! The Ancient World will remain with you for years to come.
UNIT 1

Early Humans and the Rise of Civilization

Chapter 1

Investigating the Past
Understand how social scientists examine artifacts to reconstruct the lives of early humans. Explore hypotheses about the paintings uncovered in ancient caves.

Chapter 2

Early Hominids
Learn about five important groups of hominids and their capabilities. Discover their differences and similarities.

Chapter 3

From Hunters and Gatherers to Farmers
Travel with early hominids as they move from hunting and gathering to farming. Learn how this important development changed people’s lives.

Chapter 4

The Rise of Sumerian City-States
Explore key problems faced by early Mesopotamians. Learn how Neolithic farming villages evolved into Sumerian city-states.

Chapter 5

Was Ancient Sumer a Civilization?
Learn about the characteristics of a civilization. Use these characteristics to analyze whether or not ancient Sumer was a civilization.

Chapter 6

Exploring Four Empires of Mesopotamia
Discover what happened to the Sumerians and who ruled Mesopotamia after them. Learn about the achievements and downfalls of the ancient empires of Mesopotamia.

Early Humans Timeline
Chapter 7
**Geography and the Early Settlement of Egypt, Kush, and Canaan**
Recognize how environmental factors influenced human settlement as you explore three civilizations that arose in Africa and southwestern Asia.

Chapter 8
**The Ancient Egyptian Pharaohs**
Sail a felucca down the Nile and tour the ancient monuments along the way. Discover the stories of the pharaohs who created them.

Chapter 9
**Daily Life in Ancient Egypt**
Step back in time and experience life in ancient Egypt during the New Kingdom. Learn the structure of Egypt’s social pyramid.

Chapter 10
**The Kingdom of Kush**
Venture south from Egypt and explore the rival kingdom of Kush. Trace the history of the relationship between Egypt and Kush.

Chapter 11
**The Ancient Hebrews and the Origins of Judaism**
Meet four ancient Hebrew leaders – Abraham, Moses, David, and Solomon. Through their stories, learn how Judaism developed.

Chapter 12
**The Struggle to Preserve Judaism**
Learn about the central beliefs of Judaism and how they are maintained during the Diaspora. Explore the challenge of passing on traditions through successive and scattered generations.

**Ancient Egypt and the Near East Timeline**
Chapter 13
Geography and the Early Settlement of India 122
Learn about India’s varied landscape. Explore eight key physical features and their effects on the settlement of India.

Chapter 14
Unlocking the Secrets of Mohenjodaro 132
Explore the ruins of Mohenjodaro, the first settlement in India. Discover what archeologists have to say about their excavations of this ancient city.

Chapter 15
Learning About Hindu Beliefs 142
Explore the origins of Hinduism, India’s first major religion. Learn five basic Hindu beliefs and how they shaped ancient Indian society.

Chapter 16
The Story of Buddhism 152
Follow the Buddha on his path to enlightenment as you learn about another great religion of India, Buddhism.

Chapter 17
Buddhism and the First Unification of India 160
Read about how the Mauryan family united India into one empire. Discover how Buddhist values helped King Ashoka rule his empire and keep India united in peace.

Chapter 18
The Achievements of the Gupta Empire 166
Celebrate the Golden Age of India during the Gupta Empire. Explore seven great achievements of this period in India’s history.

Ancient India Timeline 178
Chapter 19
Geography and the Early Settlement of China

Compare five geographic regions in China and discover how geography affected where the first Chinese settled, the way they lived, and their ability to communicate with other civilizations.

Chapter 20
The Shang Dynasty

Excavate a Shang dynasty tomb to learn about this early civilization’s government, religion, social structure, art, writing, and technology.

Chapter 21
Three Chinese Philosophies

Read about China’s next line of rulers, the Zhou dynasty. Understand how the philosophies of Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism attempted to bring order to the chaos of the Zhou dynasty.

Chapter 22
The First Emperor of China

Relive the reign of Qin Shihuangdi, the first emperor of China. Share his struggles to unite China, protect its northern boundary, and oppose Confucian scholars.

Chapter 23
The Han Dynasty

Visit the Han dynasty and discover this period’s innovations in government, warfare, agriculture, industry, art, science, and medicine.

Chapter 24
The Silk Road

Travel the Silk Road and learn about the goods and ideas exchanged along its route between Asia and the West.
Chapter 25

Geography and the Settlement of Greece 246
Explore how geography influenced the way the ancient Greeks lived. Discover why they lived in isolated communities.

Chapter 26

The Rise of Democracy 252
Explore the four forms of government that developed in the Greek city-states. Discover why unhappiness with one form of rule led the Greeks to try another.

Chapter 27

Life in Two City-States: Athens and Sparta 258
Examine the differences between these two rival city-states.

Chapter 28

Fighting the Persian Wars 270
Discover how Athens and Sparta came together to fight a common enemy, the Persian Empire. Trace important battles during the Persian wars.

Chapter 29

The Golden Age of Athens 278
Tour Athens during its Golden Age. Visit sites around the city to learn about the city's religion, philosophy, sports, sculpture, drama, and architecture.

Chapter 30

Alexander the Great and His Empire 288
Follow Alexander as he creates and rules an empire. Discover how he helped spread Greek ideas.

Chapter 31

The Legacy of Ancient Greece 296
Learn to recognize the contributions of ancient Greece to the world today. Explore Greek contributions in language, government, medicine, mathematics, science, architecture, entertainment, and sports.

Ancient Greece Timeline 304
Chapter 32
Geography and the Early Development of Rome
Revisit the founding of Rome and note the influences of the Greek and Etruscan civilizations.

Chapter 33
The Rise of the Roman Republic
Learn how the Romans formed a republic and then explore how the struggle between two groups shaped the government of Rome even more.

Chapter 34
From Republic to Empire
Discover how the republic grew into a mighty empire. Trace the expansion of Roman power and explore the costs of this expansion for Romans and the people they conquered.

Chapter 35
Daily Life in the Roman Empire
Experience life as a Roman teenager. Examine parties, home life, school, food, and laws of the city and discover the vast differences between rich and poor in ancient Rome.

Chapter 36
The Origins and Spread of Christianity
Track the development of Christianity and the effect of this new religion on the Roman Empire.

Chapter 37
The Legacy of Rome in the Modern World
Discover how and why the Roman Empire fell. Learn to recognize the influence of ancient Rome on modern life.

Ancient Rome Timeline

Resources