Early Humans and the Rise of Civilization

Lesson 1  Investigating the Past
Lesson 2  Early Hominids
Lesson 3  From Hunters and Gatherers to Farmers
Lesson 4  The Rise of Sumerian City-States
Lesson 5  Was Ancient Sumer a Civilization?
Lesson 6  Exploring Four Empires of Mesopotamia
To complete each Geography Challenge card, answer the questions in complete sentences. Label the map on the opposite page as directed. Questions 5–8 are on page 6.

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4
To complete each Geography Challenge card, answer the questions in complete sentences.
Label the map on the opposite page as directed. Questions 1–4 are on page 4.

Question 5


Question 6


Question 7


Question 8


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In the space below, quickly sketch one object you currently own that you think someone might find 20,000 years from now.

Pretend you are a social scientist living 20,000 years from now. You have just discovered the object above. What might the object tell you about the person who left it behind? Write your thoughts in a short paragraph below.
In this activity, you will try to discover what six cave artifacts reveal about early humans. Carefully examine each photograph from the cave. Match it to one of these images. Complete that section of the Reading Notes.

**Transparency 1: Cave Painting of a Human**

**Find evidence:** Label three details in the image that may offer clues about why the artist created this painting.

**Our hypothesis:** We think the artist created this because...

Read Section 1.4. Why do social scientists think this painting was created?

**Placard 1A: Cave Painting of Animals**

**Find evidence:** Label two details in the image that may offer clues about why the artist created this painting.

**Our hypothesis:** We think the artist created this because...

Read Section 1.5. Why do social scientists think this painting was created?
Placard 1C: Spear Thrower  
**Find evidence:** Label two details in the image that may offer clues about why the artist created this tool.  
**Our hypothesis:** We think the artist created this because...

Read Section 1.7. Why do social scientists think this tool was created?

Placard 1D: Clay Sculptures  
**Find evidence:** Label two details in the image that may offer clues about why the artist created these sculptures.  
**Our hypothesis:** We think the artist created these because...

Read Section 1.8. Why do social scientists think these sculptures were created?

Placard 1E: Cave Art Tools  
**Find evidence:** Label three details in the image that may offer clues about why the artist created these tools.  
**Our hypothesis:** We think the artist used these tools to...

Read Section 1.9. What do social scientists think these tools were used for?
Create a “cave painting” that represents the most important aspects of your life. Follow these guidelines:

- Use a sheet of butcher or poster paper, approximately 18 by 24 inches.
- Use charcoal, red-brown paint, or markings made with natural materials.
- Show at least five different objects in your painting.