

Aim: How did inhabitants of Early River Valley Civilizations innovate to meet their needs?

HW: Complete p. 9-15 in packet if we don't finish in class.

Inhabitants of early River Valley Civilizations innovated by creating irrigation systems.

Objective:

How did inhabitants of Early River Valley Civilizations innovate to meet their needs?

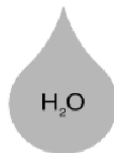
- Describe how early river valley civilizations innovated to meet their needs



Introduction

→ Directions: Water is one of the most important resources in our society. Answer the questions below about our current uses of water.

Predict



1. What do we use water for?

Identify at least five uses we have for water in the space below.

- showers
- farming
- cooking
- clean
- drinking
- swimming
- transportation

2. How do you think that water gets to where we need it?

- irrigation pipes

During the **Neolithic era**, people stopped moving around and settled down in one place. Once people settled down in one place, they had to **modify** their environments to meet their needs.



Connect Cause and Effect



Think Like a Geographer

When humans **ADAPT** to or **MODIFY** their environment, they change their behavior and change the world around them to meet their needs.

→ **Directions:** Describe how the scenarios below are examples of humans modifying or adapting to their environment.

Example	This is an example of humans modifying or adapting to their environment because...
domesticating animals and creating farms to have a stable food supply	+ keeping animals in pens. - feeding animals - digging up earth, planting seeds
building bridges to connect remote villages	animals + people can travel into new areas + changed them.
building canals to get water to areas without access to water	- water goes to new land + makes more land is fertile.
removing or adding trees or shrubs	trees keep soil firm Removing trees + shrubs changes the ecosystem.

The Neolithic Revolution and Water Access



All civilizations need access to water. However, in some places there are not reliable water supplies. To meet the needs for reliable water access, early civilizations made modifications to their environment.

The **Neolithic Revolution** was a major turning point in human history around 10,000 BCE. This was the point when humans began to cultivate crops and domesticate certain animals. People abandoned hunting and gathering and permanent settlements were established.

Why did humans need access to more water after experiencing the Neolithic Revolution?

Humans needed more access to water after the Neolithic Revolution because . . .

Example 1: Irrigation



What is irrigation?

Irrigation is the process of bringing water from a natural source like a river to an area without water.



Watch the "What is irrigation?" video to see examples of irrigation across the world.

1. Based on the video, identify advantages and disadvantages to using irrigation in the chart below.

Advantages to Using Irrigation	Disadvantages to Using Irrigation
easier to move water to farm land.	Run off can mix with pesticides to cause pollution.

Irrigation in Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia



Directions: Watch this [Discovery Education Video on irrigation in Ancient Egypt](#) and [this video on Irrigation in Ancient Mesopotamia](#) then complete the tasks the follow.

2. Describe the techniques used by Ancient Egyptians and people living in Mesopotamia to meet their water and food needs.

E - Shaduf - buckets lowered into Nile and in seesaw style dumped into irrigation canal.

M - Created canals with gates to control the flow of water.

3. Explain the effects of using these techniques on these civilizations.

E - More fertile land → more crops: grains, figs, onions, grapes

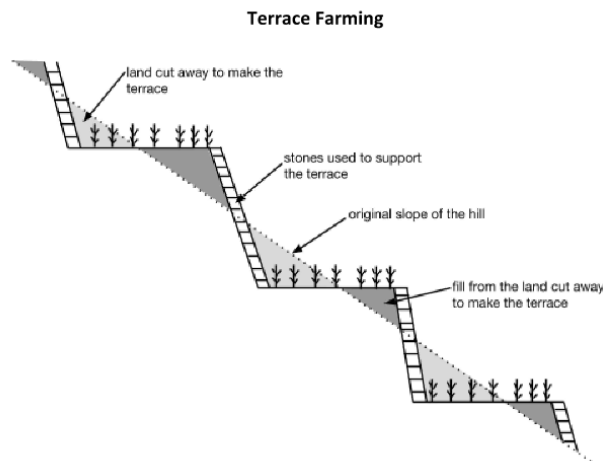
M - enabled a surplus of food

Example 2: Terrace Farming and Mud Brick Making

The environmental problem is that there is ...	so	Early River Valley Civilizations modified their environments to create ...
not enough flat land to farm because of mountains	➔	TERRACE FARMING

Terrace Farming in Ancient China

Directions: Examine the image below and watch [this video on the rice terraces in Yunnan, China](#) then complete the tasks the follow.



4. In your own words, describe what terrace farming is and explain how terrace farming benefited the Ancient Chinese.

Mud Brick Making



Directions: Watch this [CCTV video on how a modern day mud brick maker makes bricks](#), a process that is not that different from the technique used by people in Ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Indus River Valley Civilization.

5. Describe the techniques used to make mud bricks.

6. Explain how being able to create bricks might have affected the Early River Valley Civilizations.

--	--

FA

SQ 15: How did inhabitants of Early River Valley Civilizations innovate to meet their needs?

→ **Directions:** Based on what you have learned, complete the task below.



Part I

Describe how early river valley civilizations innovated to meet their needs. (Be sure to define the need and describe how their innovation addressed the problem)

**Connect Cause
and Effect**



**Think Like a
Geographer**

