



Wider Curriculum Unit Plan for Home learning

Subject: History

Unit: Why was Baghdad so important?

Year: 5

Session

Lesson tasks

Session 1

Introduction to Baghdad and Early Islamic Civilisation

- Look at the timeline - resource 1 - what do you know about the different periods here? What questions do you have?
- What is a civilisation? Read the definition and 7 characteristics – resource 2
- Watch the [video](#) animation introducing Early Islamic Civilisation
- How many examples can you find of the 7 features of civilisation?
- Watch the video again to take notes.
Collect and organise your learning as bullet point notes under the headings:
 - Baghdad (buildings, organisation, location)
 - Society (jobs)
- Write some questions you have or things you want to know more about having watched this video. These may be answered in following lessons or in research.

Session 2

- If you were to explain our civilisation today to someone from Ancient Greece, what would you tell them? What aspects of a civilisation might you focus on? (Look at resource 1 to help you)
- Look at resource 2. Create a mind map around the source, thinking about the following questions:
 - What can you see?
 - What are they doing?
 - What could this be used for?
 - What can we learn from it?
- Use what you can see in the source to make reasonable suggestions. There are no wrong answers!

Session 3

- Look at the map created during the Early Islamic Civilisation (Resource 1). What did the Early Islamic Civilisation know about the world around them? Use the following questions to help you:
 - What can you see?
 - What are they doing?
 - What could this be used for?
 - What can we learn from it?
- Which sources give us the most information about Early Islamic Civilisation? Using the pictures from Resource 2, create a diamond 9 that shows which sources are most valuable.
- Which source did you think was the most important and why? Write a short explanation.

Session 4

- Baghdad was the capital city of the Early Islamic Civilisation. The Mongol Empire besieged Baghdad in 1285 so there is little evidence of the original city left.
- Look at Resource 1. Use the clues to draw a picture of what Baghdad was like in 900AD.
- Compare your drawing to Resource 2.
- Answer the following question: Abbasid Caliphate wanted to create the perfect city. Do you think they achieved this?

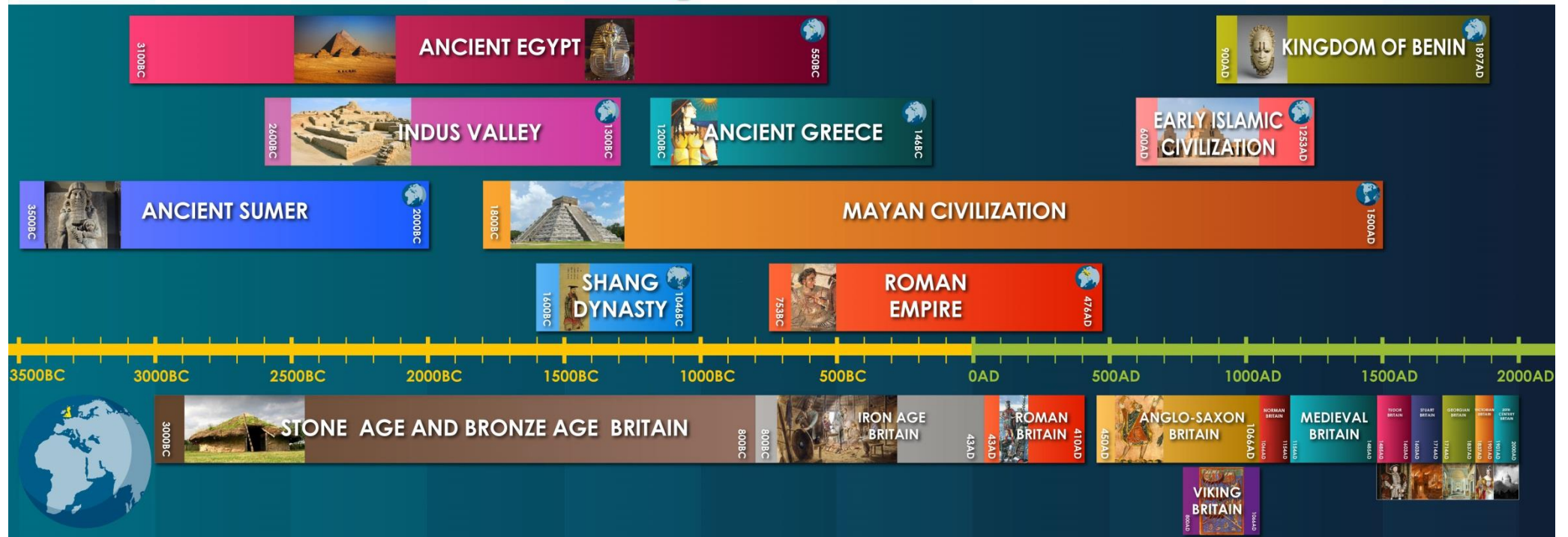
Session 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look at Resource 1. Why do you think the Early Islamic Civilisation spread like this?• Make bullet points showing your ideas.• Use the following websites to answer this question: What was the Silk Road and how did it help the Early Islamic Civilisation spread?• https://kids.kiddle.co/Silk_Road• https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-baghdad-in-900ad/zjfxpg8• https://www.ducksters.com/history/china/silk_road.php• https://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/Silk_Road
Session 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did Baghdad compare to Anglo Saxon England in 1000 AD?• Using Resource 1, sort the statements into the two sections on the T Chart.• Answer the following question: Where would you rather live and why?• Create a travel guide to Baghdad in 1000 AD.

Session Resources

Lesson 1: Resource 1: Timeline



History Timeline



Lesson 1 Resource 2: What is a civilisation?

A **civilisation** is a complex human society, usually made up of different cities, with certain characteristics of cultural and technological development.

In many parts of the world, early **civilisations** formed when people began coming together in urban settlements

Requirements of a civilisation

To be considered a civilisation, the 7 following requirements must be met:

- Social structure.
- System of government.
- Stable food supply.
- Religious system.
- Highly developed culture.
- Advances in technology.
- Highly developed written language.

Lesson 2: Resource 1: Features of a civilisation

- presence of cities/towns and how we live within them
- language and how we use it to communicate
- schools and how we are educated
- religion and how people show faith
- law and order (is the society fair and democratic?)
- technology, science and how we make progress

Lesson 2: Resource 2: Source 1



Lesson 3: Resource 1: Map created in the Early Islamic Civilisation

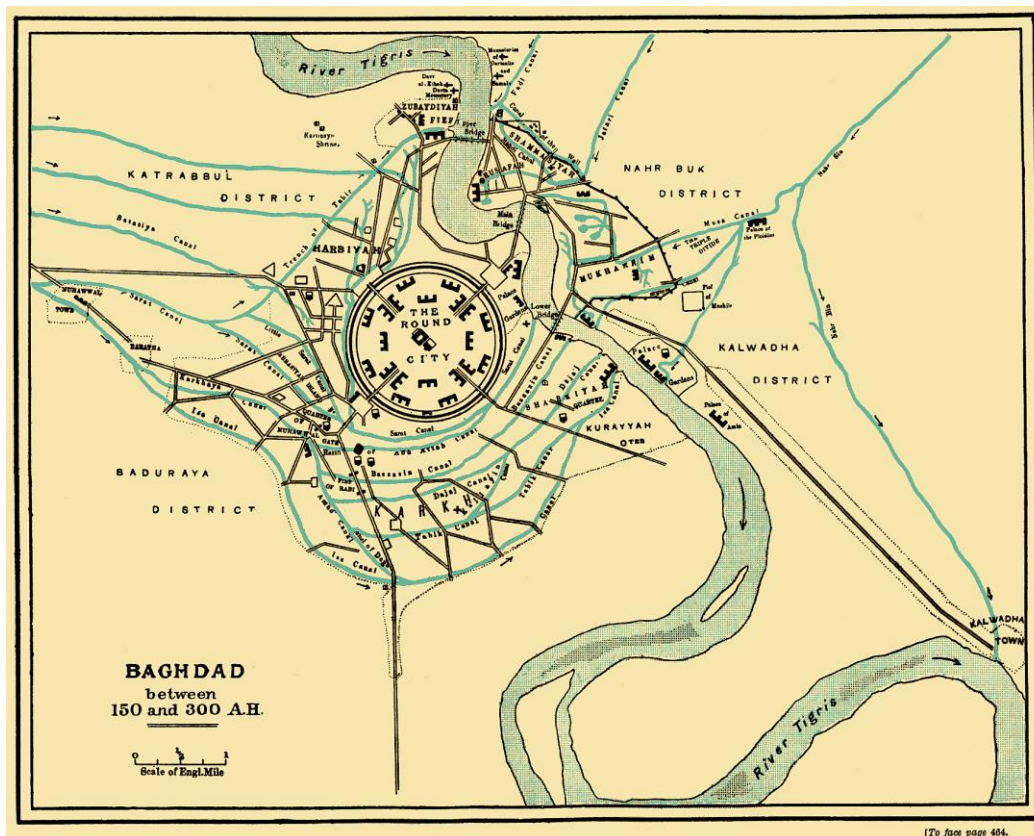


Lesson 3: Resource 2: Sources to create a Diamond 9

Lesson 4: Resource 1: Clues about Baghdad

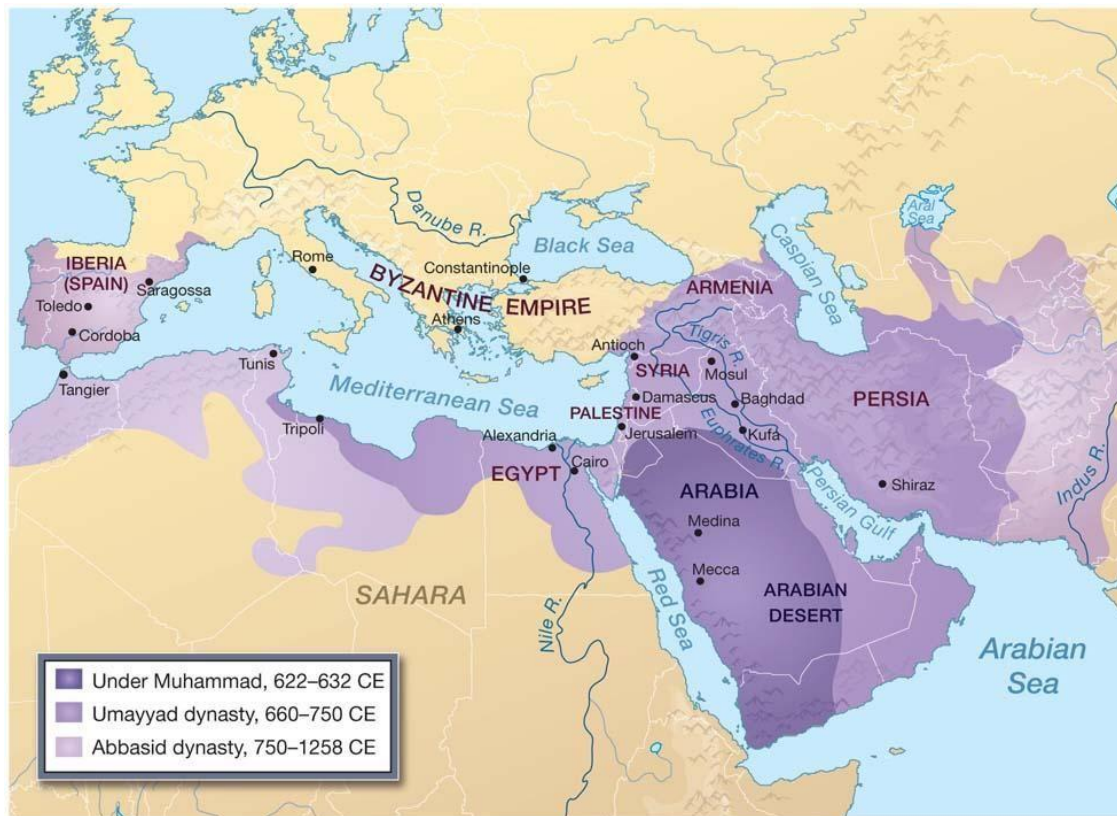
1	The capital was perfectly round.
2	The brick walls surrounding the city were perfectly round.
3	Four roads led from the Caliph's palace to the main cities of the Empire, dividing the city into quarters.
4	At the centre of the city, was the Grand Mosque. This was a square building with a large courtyard.
5	Next to the mosque was the Caliph's palace. The huge green dome at the top could be seen for miles around.
6	150 bridges spanned the canals.
7	A network of canals surrounded the city.
8	An immense square lay in front of the Caliph's palace for tournaments and races.

Lesson 4: Resource 2: Map of Baghdad 1000AD



Lesson 5: Resource 1

Map of how the Early Islamic Civilisation spread



Lesson 6: Resource 1

Statements about Anglo Saxon England and Baghdad 1000AD

The Islamic World c.1000 CE
About one million people lived in Baghdad and its suburbs
Gathered and used books from the ancient Greeks / Romans
Millions of books and many thousands of readers
Clean water and good drainage in cities
Used advanced mathematics using Arabic numbers and zero
Religion tended to encourage scientific study
General peace across a huge Islamic empire

Europe c.1000 CE
About 20,000 people lived in London and its suburbs
Ignored the writings of ancient Greeks and Romans
Very few books and hardly any readers
Unsafe water supplies and very little drainage in cities
Very poor mathematics using Roman numerals and no zero
Religion tended to encourage "blind" faith
Many wars between Christian kingdoms