ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

ANCIENT CHINA & EGYPT

STANDARD 2.1  The student will explain how the contributions of ancient China and Egypt have influenced the present world in terms of architecture, inventions, the calendar, and written language.

Terms to know
- **Ancient**: Long, long ago
- **Architecture**: The design of buildings
- **Contribution**: The act of giving or doing something

What contributions did the people of ancient China and Egypt make to the development of written language?

**China**: Characters, symbols
**Egypt**: Hieroglyphics

What inventions and examples of architecture came from ancient China and Egypt?

**Architecture**
- **China**: Great Wall
- **Egypt**: Pyramids

Contributions of Ancient China and Egypt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>China</th>
<th>Egypt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Written Language</strong></td>
<td>Characters, symbols</td>
<td>Hieroglyphics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inventions</strong></td>
<td>Kite</td>
<td>Paper made from papyrus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Silk cloth</td>
<td>365-day calendar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Compass</td>
<td>Clock</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bronze</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fireworks</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Architecture</strong></td>
<td>Great Wall</td>
<td>Pyramids</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
STANDARD 2.4 Locate China and Egypt on world maps; compare the climate, land, and plant life of these regions; describe how people in these regions adapt to their environment.

Where are China and Egypt located on a world map?

China is located in Asia. Egypt is located in Africa. (see map)

People adapt to their environment in different ways.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Climate</th>
<th>Land</th>
<th>Plant Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>China</strong></td>
<td>Seasons</td>
<td>Forests, hills, mountains, deserts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Egypt</strong></td>
<td>Hot, dry</td>
<td>Nile River, deserts, flooding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANCIENT GREECE & ROME

STANDARD 3.1 – Significant contributions to society in terms of architecture, government (direct and representative democracy), and sports and they have influenced the lives of people today.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN GOVERNMENT

What principles of government from ancient Greece and Rome are part of our government?

The Government of the United States is based on the ideas developed in ancient Greece and Rome.

- **Greece:**
  - Birthplace of democracy (government by the people); a direct democracy

- **Rome:**
  - Republican (representative) form of government; a representative democracy

Terms to know

- **Contribution:** The act of giving or doing something
- **Direct democracy:** A government in which people vote to make their own rules and laws
- **Representative democracy:** A government in which people vote for (elect) a smaller group of citizens to make their rules and laws for everyone

CONTRIBUTIONS IN SPORTS

What sporting events today came from ancient Greece?

- **Olympic games** of today are modeled after the games of ancient Greece.

Ancient Greece Olympic Games
CONTRIBUTIONS IN ART & ARCHITECTURE
What styles in architecture used today came from ancient Greece and Rome?

Architecture
The architects of ancient Greece and Rome used **columns** and **arches** in the construction of their buildings.

Ancient examples still exist today:
- Greece—The Parthenon (columns)
- Rome—The coliseum and aqueducts (arches)

The Arts
**Mosaics, sculpture, and paintings** are displayed on buildings.

INFLUENCE OF GEOGRAPHY
Ancient Greece and Rome were located on land near the **Mediterranean Sea**.

How people adapted to their environments
Ancient Greece:
- They farmed on hillsides; trading took place on the Mediterranean Sea; small independent communities developed because of the many mountains.

Ancient Rome:
- They farmed on hillsides; trading took place on the Mediterranean Sea.

Human characteristics
Ancient Greece:
- Farmers, **shipbuilders**, and traders
Ancient Rome:
- Farmers, **road builders**, and traders

ECONOMIC SPECIALIZATION & INTERDEPENDENCE

Specialization
- **Ancient Greece and Rome** both focused on building **ships**, **farming**, and **making pottery**.

Interdependence
- Greeks and Romans traded their goods with Egypt and other nearby communities.
Africawas the home to several great empires. One of the most prosperous was the empire of Mali.

- Mali was ruled by rich and powerful kings.
- Early Mali was a wealthy trading empire before Columbus sailed to America.
- Timbuktu was an important city in Mali. It had a famous university with a large library containing Greek and Roman books.

While were storytellers so important in the empire of Mali?

Many storytellers in Mali passed on traditions and stories from one generation to the next. Most of what we know about Mali's history comes from oral accounts that were handed down from Mali storytellers.

What do we know about the leaders of the empire of Mali?

The kings of Mali were rich and powerful men who controlled trade in West Africa.

Mali became one of the largest and wealthiest empires in the region and was an important trade center.

Why was the empire of Mali so wealthy?

Mali lay across the trade routes between the sources of salt in the Sahara Desert and the gold region/mines of West Africa.

- For the people of the desert, salt was a natural resource.
- People used salt for their health and for preserving foods.
- Miners found gold in Western Africa. Therefore, salt was traded for gold.

The empire of Mali was located in the western region of the continent of Africa.

Physical characteristics of Empire of Mali:
- In West Africa
- Near rivers
- Desert-like conditions
- Gold mines

Human characteristics of Empire of Mali:
- Farmers, miners, and traders

Terms to know

Characteristics:
- Different traits

How did the people of Mali adapt to and change their environment to meet their needs?

Salt was an important natural resource for people in the desert; salt was traded for gold.

Specialization and interdependence

How did economic specialization and interdependence exist in ancient empire of Mali?

Specialization – (being an expert in one job, product, or service)
- Some people specialized in protecting the empire; others specialized in growing food for the empire

Interdependence – (depending on others) in the production of goods and services
- The people of Mali traded (gold for salt) with other people.