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| A loom is used for weaving yarn or thread. Ancient Mesopotamians used the loom to weave clothing and other fabrics. | loom weaving.jpg |
| Ancient Mesopotamians used irrigation canals to use the water from the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. An irrigation canal, basically, is a [trench](http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-a-trench.htm) filled with water. An [irrigation](http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-irrigation.htm) canal is a waterway that is man-made and built for the purpose of carrying water from a source such as a lake, river, or stream. The water is used to water soil for farming or [landscaping](http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-landscaping.htm). | irrigation.jpg |
| Ancient Mesopotomians were the first to develop the potter’s wheel. After the invention of the wheel, they made the potter’s wheel, a machine used for shaping and rounding clay. | potter's wheel.jpg |
| By discovering the principle of the wheel, the Sumerians were able to give up pulling people along on sledges or dragging heavy objects over a series of logs. They also figured out how to construct the first carts and chariots. | wheels.jpg |
| The ancient Mesopotamians a piece of farm equipment that is used to dig into and turn over soil especially to prepare the soil for planting | plow.jpg |
| Hammurabi united the Semites and created a uniform code of laws for the kingdom, known as Hammurabi’s Code. The code of laws was the first recorded set of laws in history and was based on social status and gender. The Code of Hammurabi was engraved in stone and placed in a public location. Hammurabi required that people be responsible for their actions.  Some of Hammurabi’s laws were based on the principle “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.” | hammurabi clay.jpg |
| The Sumerians developed a form of writing called cuneiform.  The writing first started as pictographs and evolved into the wedge-shaped symbols known as cuneiform. They carved these symbols onto clay tablets. | cuneiform.jpg |
| The type of community that developed in ancient Mesopotamia was the city-state. A city-state was like a kingdom or empire. These city-states were not like a city or state that you know like North Carolina. | EarlyMesoKingdoms2.jpg |
| Sumer was ruled by priests and kings. Temple priests ruled first then leaders were selected and finally those leaders became kings.  Below the priest-kings in social power were more priests, the nobility, and rich merchants.  Below them in power were merchants, farmers, and artisans.  Finally, slaves were at the bottom of the social hierarchy and had the least power. | social pyramid.jpg  hammburabi.GIF |
| Sumerians were ***polytheistic.*** This means they believed in more than one god. (Easy to remember if you know the prefix “poly”, which means “much or many”.  They believed the gods controlled the weather and they constantly tried to please them. | polytheism.gif |
| Ancient Mesopotamian governments were theocracies. A theocracy is a system of government in which priests rule in the name of God or a god. | assyrian king and chief minister.png |
| In the center of ancient mesopotamian town’s was the Ziggurat. The Ziggurat was a multi-storied temple. Architecturally, they were similar to the Egyptian pyramids. |  |
| Sumer was ruled by priests and kings. Temple priests ruled first then leaders were selected and finally those leaders became kings. Priests were held in high regard because it was thought they could influence the gods. | assyrian king and chief minister.png |
| The Star of David is a well-known symbol of ***Judaism***. ***Judaism*** is a ***monotheistic*** faith that believed in one true God who created the universe. Jews believed that you could have a relationship with God. They believed in a promise made with God, the law, and prophets. They believed that while rabbis and prophets knew God’s wishes, everyone had access to God. They did not accept other religions and therefore did not integrate with other civilizations. | star of david.png |

advancements in mathematics (number system based on 60)

advancements in astronomy

weapons from bronze