Age of Empires
Objectives:
1. Identify geographic features of select areas of the classical world and explain its input on development.

2. Note the aspects of early Greek, Persian, Roman, Indian, and Chinese culture.

3. Compare and contrast forms of government in the Age of Empires.

4. Identify Greek, Roman, Indian, and Chinese achievements during the Age of Empires.

5. Note the impact of significant leaders on Classical cultures.

6. Trace the development of major world religions: Judaism, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism.
What is an EMPIRE?

Using the concept map provided, develop a working definition of EMPIRE based on your current knowledge and previous study of history.
Empire

What is it?

Always Present

Sometimes Present

Never Present

Examples:

Nonexamples:

Tie Down a Definition:
People develop systems to create order and manage conflict.

AN EMPIRE ...

• Has a central ruler
• Expands its boundaries
• Has multiple civilizations/peoples
What problems might there be in ruling an empire?
Introduction to Greece
Geography is what shaped ancient Greek civilization.

**Characteristics:** rugged mountains, narrow valleys, no navigable rivers, long coastlines, many inlets and bays, warm climate

**Impact:**
1. Greeks lived in small independent communities [geography prevented unification]
2. Travel and trade focused on the sea; difficult to travel through the mountains
3. No great population growth due to limited crop yields [not much surplus]
4. Focus on the outdoors due to the warm climate
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Egypt</th>
<th>Greece</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Geography</strong></td>
<td>Nile River determined the fate of the people</td>
<td>Rugged mountains, narrow valleys, no navigable rivers, long coastlines, many inlets and bays, warm climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>People</strong></td>
<td>Unified under the Pharaohs</td>
<td>Never unified; revered heroes and athletes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Religion</strong></td>
<td>Gods were feared; focus on afterlife</td>
<td>Gods resemble humans; more focus placed on the here and now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Architecture</strong></td>
<td>Bigger was better; last forever</td>
<td>Built for beauty to please the gods</td>
</tr>
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Outline of
Greek History
Bronze Age: 2000-1100 BC
a. Minoan - 1st civilization (Crete, Knossos)
b. Mycenaens - 1st mainland civilization (alliance of monarchies)

i. 1250 - sack of Troy/ Trojan War
**Dark Ages: 1100- 750 BC**

a. Dorians - invaded mainland (Peloponnesus/Crete)

b. Greek language disappears - adopt Phoenician alphabet, 8th C.

c. Homer - *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, epic poetry
Archaic Age/ Polis (City-State): 725-370 BC

a. Athens – 1st democracy

b. Sparta – military society
**Persian Wars** (Darius, Xerxes): 490-480 BC

a. Marathon – Defeat for Persians- Phidippides

b. Salamis & Plataea – brought end to the war

c. Herodotus: History of the Persian Wars
Persia

Contributions:
* imperial bureaucracy - "king of kings"
* Zoroastrianism
* The Royal Road - 1st "interstate" highway

Established by Cyrus the Great and expanded by Darius

Xerxes failed to conquer Greece
Golden Age: 480-430 BC

a. Pericles - Leader of Athens

b. Development of Arts, Philosophy, democracy
Peloponnesian War: 431-404 BC

a. Sparta v. Athens - 28 years

b. Temporary rule by Sparta

Thucydides:

History of the Peloponnesian War
Alexander the Great: 336 – 323 BC

a. Continued Conquests: N.Africa, Asia, Europe

b. Divided empire – spreads Greek culture
Hellenistic Age: 330-150 BC

a. Centered on city life - Alexandria

b. Advances in science, math, medicine
Creating Greek Time Capsules

Example: a time capsule from Ancient Egypt might include linen from a mummy, water from the Nile River, or hieroglyphics.

Requirements:
- Using your notes and your text to create artifacts from your assigned time period.
- You must include AT LEAST 3 items!
- Each item must have a description! Place it in a folded piece of paper! What is it? Why is it important?

Place all items into your "Time Capsule" and decorate your capsule with images that define your time period in history.

BE CREATIVE! USE COLOR!

Each group member is responsible for ONE artifact AND description.
Greek Polis

Polis: city-state
- basic political unit of Ancient Greece
- each polis was independent but all shared the following features:

1. Location: each polis included a city and the surrounding villages, fields and orchards.
2. Acropolis: fortified area; religious center
3. Agora: public square that served as the political center of the polis
4. Population: included citizen with political rights (adult males), citizens with no political rights (women & children), and non-citizens (slaves and foreign-born)
- average size = 5,000 males - men expected to participate in government and serve in the military
Assignment

Investigate Athens & Sparta as two examples of city-states. Use your textbook, pages 127-133, 134-139 to complete a chart which should include the following information:

1. Location
2. Background of the polis (how the city-state started)
3. How children were raised
4. Roles for men and women
5. Description of the government
6. Results and/or consequences (of the Great Peloponnesian War)

After completing the information for Athens & Sparta, develop your own ideal city-state using the same headings.