

Knowledge Organiser

Year 6 Spring 1 History The Indus Valley

Vocabulary

City: an inhabited place of greater size, population, or importance than a town or village.

Conurbation: an extended urban area, typically consisting of several towns merging with the suburbs of a central city.

Hamlet: a small settlement, generally one smaller than a village, and strictly (in Britain) one without a church.

Population: is the number of people in a certain area.

Settlement: are places where people live

Town: a built-up area with a name, defined boundaries, and local government, that is larger than a village and generally smaller than a city.

Village: a group of houses and associated buildings, larger than a hamlet and smaller than a town, situated in a rural area.

Key Knowledge

- The dancing girl was found in Mohenjo-Daro, which is near the River Indus. The statue is four thousand years old!
- The dancing girl was made by a skilled craftsman and may have been sold or bought by merchants in a market.
- The people of the Indus Valley farmed the fertile land around the River Indus. They then started to grow extra food that they could sell.
- Archaeologists have found over 400 symbols that might be writing which are on seals.
- Small pieces of pottery called potsherds have been found by archaeologists.
- Walls surround the citadel at the heart of Mohenjo-Daro. The bricks are made of mud. They've lasted so long because they were fired in a kiln.
- Harappa was a city that was part of the Indus Valley Civilisation.
- The remains of bathrooms, wells and sewages have been found in the Indus Valley.
- Archaeologists are sure that the Indus Civilisation was very organised and led by a person or a group, even though there is no evidence of a King, Queen or government.

Timeline

3300 BC	Farmers came to the Indus Valley and started small farming settlements.
3000 BC	Cities had begun to grow around the markets. This is what we call the Indus Valley Civilisation.
2600 BC	Archaeologists think Mohenjo-Daro was built.
2500 BC	Seals started to be used by traders.
2400 BC	The Indus Valley was at its peak.
1800 BC	The cities were not run as well, they became dirtier, trade stopped and buildings started to crumble.
1500 BC	The Indus Civilisation comes to an end.

By the end of this unit, we will:

- Explore Sites and artefacts in the Indus Valley (including the dancing girl, the priest king, seals, the threshing platforms, pots and potsherds, beads, weights, toys)
- Recognise how the first settlements began using bricks, and exploring how the first civilisations created buildings, baths, bathrooms and a drainage system
- Explore various settlements including Mohenjo Daro, Harappa, Lothal
- Analyse Similarities and differences between Indus Valley and Sumer and Egypt (e.g. writing, monuments)
- Understand how Historians/ archaeologists have build up knowledge through limited information- Puzzles for historians, including rulers and religion



We Are Historians:

- Analyse maps and artefacts
- Compare civilisations and changes
- Compare and contrast different sources