Britannica School



# Ancient Civilisations

A Britannica School Digital Scavenger Hunt for **Middle School**

# Introduction

> **History inspires curiosity and imagination. Historical knowledge is fundamental to understanding ourselves and and others.**
>
> - Australian History Curriculum

**"Ancient Civilisations"** is a history-themed scavenger hunt to help students from the middle level explore the contents and tools of Britannica School, while building on their historical knowledge.

Digital scavenger hunts are a great way for learners of all ages to practice problem solving, improve their reading and comprehension skills, and have a lot of fun!

**This activity is suitable for students from Grades 6-8. It can be completed at school or at home.**

# Learning Outcomes

Students come to understand their world both past and present.

Students develop a sense of wonder, curiosity and respect about places, people, cultures and systems throughout the world, past and present.

Value their belonging in a diverse and dynamic society.

Positively contribute locally, nationally, regionally and globally.

Britannica School

# Ancient Civilisations

This scavenger hunt will encourage students to understand their world both past and present.






# Ready?

Conducting quality research is often hard and time consuming.

By completing this scavenger hunt you will discover features and tools in Britannica School that will make your research journey easier and much more effective.

## Let's go!

- Key Word Search
- Biographies
- Images & Video
- Article
- Britannica Tools

# Task 1: Keyword Search

**Go to the Britannica School homepage. Now click on the Middle level. Start exploring the Middle Homepage.**

**Type the phrase 'Ancient Chinese Achievements' into the Search Box. On the results page, select the Images tab. Open the image titled 'ancient China: key achievements'. Create a Fact Timeline illustrating the history of Ancient Chinese Achievements.**



| Achievement | Date of Achievement | Details of the Achievement |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
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# Task 2: Biographies - Claudius Ptolemy



**Return to the Middle Homepage and click Biographies, under the Explore section. Narrow your search by selecting 'Egyptian' in the National/Cultural Association filter. Navigate to page 2 of your results and scroll down until you find the biography on Ptolemy.**

**Create a biographical profile for the well known Ancient Egyptian astronomer, geographer and mathematician.**

| **Name:** | **Date of Birth and Death:** | **Areas of Expertise:** |
|---|---|---|
| **Best Known For:** | | **Portrait:** (Draw Ptolemy) |
| **Major Discoveries:** | | **Interesting Facts:** |

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# Task 3: Images and Videos - Babylon, an Ancient City



**Return to the Middle Homepage. Under Explore, click on Pictures & Videos. Select the topic 'History' . Now select the subtopic 'Ancient World' and finally 'Mesopotamia'. Open the video that appears in the results, titled 'Babylon'.**

**Use the video to help you answer the following questions.**

Why was the area called Mesopotamia?

What city was Babylon the capital of?

What feature of Babylon is one of the 7 Wonders of the World?

Describe Babylon according to Greek historian Herodotus.

What form of communication were the Babylonians known for? Provide some examples.

Using the descriptions of the city of Babylon, create a diagram illustrating what it may have looked like. You may need to use another piece of paper to create this illustration. Can you label some of the features?

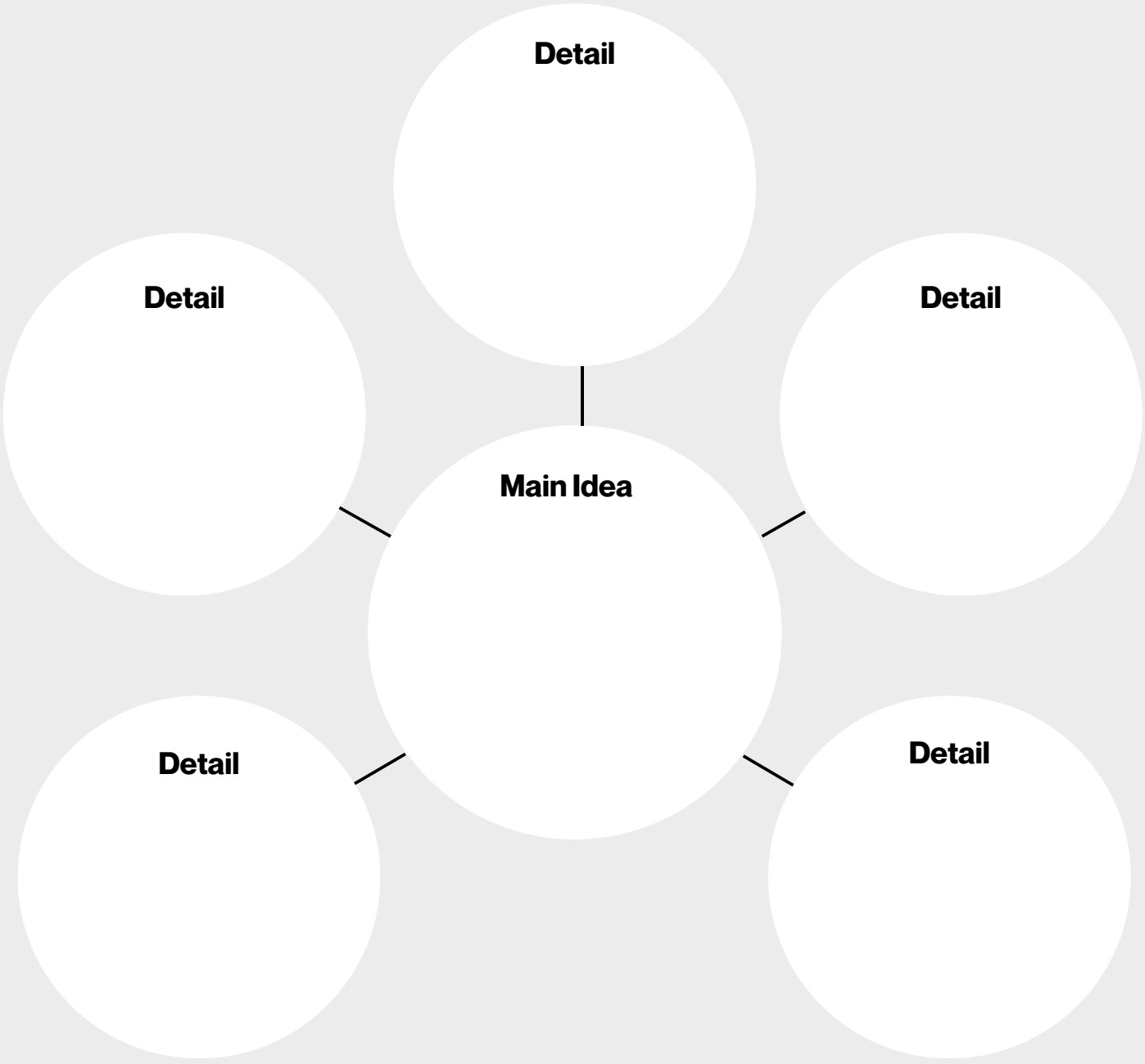
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# Task 4: Article - Inca, Maya, Aztec

**Return to the Middle Homepage. Find and click on Articles. Select the topic 'History' then the subtopics 'Ancient World' and 'Pre-Columbian Civilisations'.**

**Select the article for 'Aztec', 'Inca' or 'Maya'. Use the information to complete the Main Idea and Detail Web below.**




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# Task 5: Britannica Tools



**Britannica has a number of very useful tools to make learning and research easier. You'll see them on every article page.**

Choose an article that has recently been revised or is new.
a. Which article did you choose? _____

b. Somewhere on this page is a button that produces AUTOMATIC citations for you to use. What citation style options does Britannica provide? (hint: there are four)
_____ _____ _____ _____

c. Select a citation style and copy and paste the citation here.

Do you ever encounter an unfamiliar word and wish you had the definition nearby?

Britannica has a tool for that too! Double-click on a word and find the Quick-Click Dictionary. Write the word and the Merriam-Webster's Dictionary definition from your article.

_____

_____

Find an additional tool on this article page. What did you find?

_____

Think of a situation where you would need to use this tool. Explain that situation

_____

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