### Concept: Geography of Mesopotamia
- Characteristics of the Fertile Crescent caused it to become the ideal location for civilization.
- Lesson Essential Question(s):
  - What major physical features were present in Mesopotamia? (A)
  - How did geography influence the development of civilization in Mesopotamia? (A)
  - What major cities rose in Mesopotamia? (A)

### Concept: People of Mesopotamia
- Characteristics of the Fertile Crescent caused it to become the ideal location for civilization.
- Lesson Essential Question(s):
  - What were the religious and cultural contributions of the Sumerians? (A)
  - What were the religious, cultural, and political contributions of the Babylonians? (A)
  - What were the political and cultural contributions of the Assyrians? (A)

### Concept: Geography of Mediterranean
- Characteristics of the Fertile Crescent caused it to become the ideal location for civilization.
- Lesson Essential Question(s):
  - What major physical features were present in the Mediterranean? (A)
  - How did geography influence the development of civilization in the Mediterranean? (A)
  - What major cities rose in the Mediterranean? (A)

### Vocabulary:
- Fertile Crescent, City-State
- Scribe, Polytheism, Myth, Empire, Caravan, Bazaar, Zoroastrianism
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**Lesson Essential Question(s):**
- What were the cultural contributions of the Phoenicians? (A)
- How did the Phoenicians encourage trade with those around them? (A)
- Why were the Israelites unique among the peoples of the Fertile Crescent? (A)
- What are the basic beliefs of Judaism? (A)

**Vocabulary:**
- Code, Cuneiform, Alphabet, Monotheism, Famine, Exile, Covenant, Prophet, Diaspora

**Additional Information:**

**Attached Document(s):**
Concept: Geography of Mesopotamia
Fertile Crescent - Region of the Middle East in which civilizations first arose
City-State - Political unit that includes a city and its surrounding lands and villages

Concept: People of Mesopotamia
Scribe - In ancient civilizations, a person specially trained to read, write, and keep records
Polytheism - Belief in many gods
Myth - A traditional story that explains the world view of a people
Empire - Group of states or territories controlled by one ruler
Caravan - A group of people traveling together, usually for trade
Bazaar - A permanent merchandising area, marketplace, or street of shops where goods are exchanged or sold
Zoroastrianism - Ancient religion that highlights the struggle between light (good) and dark (evil)

Concept: People of the Mediterranean
Code - A set of rules, principles, or laws; especially written ones
Cuneiform - In the ancient Middle East, a system of writing that used wedge-shaped marks
Alphabet - Writing system in which each symbol represents a single basic sound
Monotheism - Belief in one god
Famine - A severe shortage of food in which large numbers of people starve
Exile - To be away from one's home and unable to return due to threat or fear
Covenant - A binding agreement; specifically in the Jewish tradition, the binding agreement God made with Abraham
Prophet - A spiritual leader who interprets God's will for the people
Diaspora - The spreading of the Jews beyond their historic homeland