

The Earliest Civilisations

Ancient Egypt

Time Period:

3100BC - 332BC

Where in the world:

North East Africa along the River Nile



Achievements:

Created a system of writing called hieroglyphics. Created one of the first types of paper called papyrus. Built enormous pyramids without modern technology. Introduced a calendar based around 365 days in a year.

Impact on today's world:

One of the first writing systems. We still use a calendar based around 365 days (plus a quarter). Some of their building techniques are still used today.

Ancient Sumer

Time Period:

3500BC - 2200BC

Where in the world:

South Iraq between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers



Achievements:

Created a system of time based around 60. They invented one of the world's first written languages, cuneiform. They made cylinder seals to act as identification. Sumerian government was part king (monarchy) and part council (elected.)

Impact on today's world:

The same system of time is still used today. Signatures are still used for identification. Monarchy and government still exist in Britain today.

Indus Valley

Time Period:

2600BC - 1300BC

Where in the world:

Pakistan/India along the Indus River



Achievements:

Created a system of writing and a system for numbers and maths. The first to create public hygiene systems. Invented a uniform system for weights and measurements so building materials could be the same.

Impact on today's world:

Public health is taken very seriously today. Maths is used all over the world for building accurately, as well as using standard sized bricks and materials.

Shang Dynasty

Time Period:

1600BC - 1046BC

Where in the world:

Eastern China along the Yellow River



Achievements:

Developed a system of writing that hasn't changed much in China. Developed ways of using bronze for stronger weapons and art. Created a strong government to help them rule where people had certain jobs and roles.

Impact on today's world:

China still uses a writing system similar to that of the Shang Dynasty. Governments around the world are still organised in a similar way.