Teacher’s Guide For

Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders

For grade 7 - College

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Teacher's Guide - This Teacher’s Guide has been prepared to aid the teacher in utilizing materials contained within this program. In addition to this introductory material, the guide contains the following:

- Suggested Instructional Notes
- Student Learning Goals
- Test Questions on Blackline Masters A for duplication and handout to students.

INSTRUCTIONAL NOTES

It is suggested that you preview the program and read the Student Goals and Teacher Points. By doing so, you will become familiar with the materials and be better prepared to adapt the program to the needs of your class. Please note that this show is set up to be played continuously and you will probably find it best to follow the program in the order in which it is presented, but this is not necessary. The program can be divided into chapters accessed through the DVD’s Menu Screen under Chapter Selects. In this way each chapter can be played and studied separately. A proposed Lesson Plan based on chapter headings accessed through the DVD menu screen can be found on page 5 of this Teachers Guide. It is also suggested that the program presentation take place before the entire class and under your direction. As you review the instructional program outlined in the Teacher's Guide, you may find it necessary to make some changes, deletions, or additions to fit the specific needs of your students. After viewing the program you may wish to copy the Test Questions on Blackline Masters 1A and distribute it to your class to measure their comprehension of the events.

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ANCIENT HISTORY: AMERICA’S PREHISTORIC CIVILIZATIONS: THE MOUND BUILDERS

Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders is a new approach to presenting in an exciting way the history of Eastern America’s ancient peoples, their thriving cities and cultures. The program is designed to present Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders in a way that promotes successful student learning. The program begins with an overview of the arrival of the first Native Americans to the North American Continent after the retreat of the glaciers 12,000 years ago. It continues with an in depth look at Poverty Point, Louisiana, a pristine archaeological site of ancient hunter gatherers who built their own city. The program then examines the Woodland Mound Builders, whose culture flourished throughout the eastern part of the present day United States. The program ends with the Mississippian Mound Building Culture, which took over from the Woodland Culture and lasted until the arrival of the Europeans at the beginning of the 16th century.

Student Goals - In this Ancient History: Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders program the students will learn:
In the 19th century as settlers pushed west across the country great mounds—Earthworks—were constantly being discovered in the eastern section of the United States. These mounds were the relics of ancient Native American cultures. Before the first earthworks were built, hunter-gatherers, known as Paleo-Indians, inhabited North America at the end of the ice age. As the glaciers retreated north, the land changed dramatically:

- West of the Mississippi River were arid plains.
- East of the Mississippi River was heavily forested with many rivers.

The rivers became the sites for the eastern mound building cultures to build their cities and monuments. Following the Paleo-Indians came the Archaic Indians:

- They were hunter-gatherers.
- They also built large permanent settlements and ceremonial mounds.

Poverty Point National Monument in Louisiana is the best preserved site of these hunter-gatherers building their monuments and settlements:

- Well engineered.
- Massive and a center of commerce.

Sometime around 1000 B.C., maize, or corn, showed up in the eastern half of North America, and with it, people of the region began the slow march toward urban societies.

A new culture, known as the Woodland Mound Building Culture, arose:

- Three distinct periods: Red Ocher, Hopewell and Effigy.
- All are represented at Effigy Mounds National Monument on the banks of the Mississippi River in present-day Iowa.
- “Effigies” are earthworks in the shape of animals.

The Woodland Culture lasted until around 700 A.D.

Around 700 A.D. a new culture known as the Mississippian Culture arose:

- Based on surplus agriculture and a better method of hunting with bows and arrows.
- The early capital of this great civilization was an urban center, called Cahokia near present day St. Louis.
- From Cahokia, the Mississippian spread East, South and North.
- What a Mississippian Culture city looked like.
- When the last Mississippian city was abandoned, so ended the greatest earthwork tradition the world had ever seen.

**LINKS TO CURRICULUM STANDARDS**

The design for this program was guided by the National Center for History in the Schools, United States History curriculum Era 3: Revolution and the New Nation—Standards 1 and 3 for grades 5-12, Era 9 Postwar United States—Standard 4 for grades 5-12, and the California Public School Standards for Historical Content, Grade 8—Standards 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 (#4 - #7), Standard 8.8 (#1) and Grade 11, Standards 11.1 (#2,
SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN

Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders is laid out so they can be viewed in their entirety, or by selecting the DVD menu screen, chapter selects, individual chapters can be viewed separately to create a lesson plan. Each chapter presents a part of the uniqueness of the Greek experience that brought the western world democracy, the concept of citizenship, western scientific method, art and literature. The program shows how the ancient Greeks during this 500 year period from 750 B.C. to 250 B.C. laid the foundations for almost every aspect of western civilization and how they impacted not only the Mediterranean region during this time but how they influenced future generations of western Europe and the United States. In addition, historical themes and figures are clearly presented, using state of the art visuals.

Below is a list of the program and its chapters. Using these chapters, teachers can create a lesson plan to cover the specific issues, themes and the historical figures mentioned.

Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders

- Introduction
- Early Native Americans
- Poverty Point
- Woodland Mound Builders
- Mississippi Mound Builders

Chapter One: Introduction

Student Goals - In this Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders chapter the students will learn:

- In the 19th century as settlers pushed west across the country great mounds – Earthworks – were constantly being discovered in the eastern section of the United States
- These mounds were the relics of ancient Native American cultures
- That Native American had the organization and the desire to create some very unique monuments on the landscape
  - Native Americans moved millions of cubic yards of earth to create mounds
  - The North American environment fueled the Native American economy so that they could do this kind of work
- Mound building comes and goes throughout the east, and had different functions
Chapter Two: Early Native Americans

Student Goals - In this Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders chapter the students will learn:

• Before the first earthworks were built, hunter-gatherers, known as Paleo-Indians, inhabited North America at the end of the ice age
• As the glaciers retreated north, the land changed dramatically
  o West of the Mississippi River were arid plains
  o East of the Mississippi River was heavily forested with many rivers
• The rivers became the sites for the eastern mound building cultures to build their cities and monuments
• Following the Paleo-Indians came the Archaic Indians
  o They were hunter-gatherers
  o They also built large permanent settlements and ceremonial mounds

Chapter Three: Poverty Point

Student Goals - In this Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders chapter the students will learn:

• Poverty Point National Monument in Louisiana is the best preserved site of these hunter-gatherers building their monuments and settlements
  o Well engineered
  o Center of commerce
• Native Americans were hunter gatherers
  o They had to make what they wanted
  o For hunting they used a spear thrower, known as an atlatl, and the thrust spear
• Hunter-gatherers constructed mounds in a relatively short time
• City had five to six hundred homes
• Population was around one to two thousand at its highest point

Chapter Four: Woodland Mound Builders

Student Goals - In this Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders chapter the students will learn:

• Sometime around 1000 B.C., maize, or corn, showed up in the eastern half of North America, and with it, people of the region began the slow march toward urban societies
• A new culture, known as the Woodland Mound Building Culture, arose
  o Three distinct periods: Red Ocher, Hopewell and Effigy
  o All are represented at Effigy Mounds National Monument on the banks of the Mississippi River in present-day Iowa
  o “Effigies” are earth works in the shape of animals
• Mounds were used for burials with four distinctive types of burials
• The Woodland Culture lasted until around 700 A.D.
• Effigy Mounds National Monuments has 206 mounds, including 31 effigy mounds
Chapter Five: Mississippian Mound Builders
Student Goals - In this Ancient History: America's Prehistoric Civilizations: The Mound Builders chapter the students will learn:

• Around 700 A.D. a new culture known as the Mississippian Culture arose
  o Based on surplus agriculture, with corn, beans and squash, and a better method of hunting with bows and arrows
• The early capital of this great civilization was an urban center, called Cahokia near present day St. Louis
  o Twenty thousand people
• From Cahokia, the Mississipians spread East, South and North
  o Ocmulgee National Monument represents a mound building culture
  o Ocmulgee was a massive trade center and a place of political and religious power
• What a Mississippian Culture city looked like
• When the last Mississippian city was abandoned, so ended the greatest earthwork tradition the world had ever seen

Answers to Blackline Master 1A Quiz

1-c; 2-a; 3-d; 4-c; 5-c; 6-d; 7-b; 8-a; 9-b; 10-c