

## Enhanced Podcast – Four Empires of Mesopotamia

How did each Mesopotamian empire contribute to the creation and success of the Mesopotamian civilization?

### Activities:

- ✓ Assign each group of five students a Mesopotamian empire
- ✓ Read section in text on assigned Mesopotamian empire
- ✓ Take notes on the leaders, features, and achievements of the empire
- ✓ Meet with group to choose three most important aspects of the empire
- ✓ Decide how each feature will be presented as a human diorama
- ✓ Write a text (2-5 sentences) that will accompany and explain each of your dioramas/empires
- ✓ Rehearse dioramas
- ✓ Have digital photos taken of dioramas
- ✓ Download pictures to computer - iPhoto
- ✓ Record text on computer - Garageband
- ✓ Put photos on Garageband
- ✓ Edit as needed; match audio to photos
- ✓ Present to the rest of the class
- ✓ Answer questions

### Objectives:

Students will learn how each individual empire helped to shape the larger Mesopotamian empire. By watching their fellow students as the emperors and characters who made and created these empires, students will get a better perspective of each of the competing empires.

This will be one of the first assignments using technology in the classroom. The teacher will lead each group on the process and use of Garageband and iPhoto

### Groupings:

- ✓ Random groupings of five students

- ✓ Students will decide who will be part of each diorama and who will record the text.

### Logistics:

Day 1: Each group will read and take notes on their assigned empire

Day 2: Finish notes and meet with group to choose three main features/ideas of the empire

Day 3, 4: Create dioramas for each feature; rehearse

Day 4, 5: Write text to accompany each diorama

Day 5, 6: Have teacher or students take pictures, download onto iPhoto; after pictures are taken, rehearse/read the narration

Day 5, 6: Record narration onto computer - Garageband

### Assessment

- ✓ Notes will be collected and assessed
- ✓ Teacher will observe the interaction of each group's progress
- ✓ Rubric will be used for final podcast

### Resources

- ✓ textbooks
- ✓ props for dioramas
- ✓ white sheet for background of photos
- ✓ digital camera