



## Research Guide Grade 6 - Ancient Civilization Project

### Getting Started - Keywords!

#### Bring your assignment to the library.

A good way to start your research is to look at a general or reference book which has information about a lot of different topics. The *World Book* encyclopedia is a good example. *Encyclopedia Britannica* is available online from the library's website. Look for **keywords** to use for searching, such as important people, names, and words that historians and scientists use to describe your topic. Use the **keywords** you find to search the Library Catalog for specific books and to search the databases for magazine articles.

#### Some Helpful Reference Books in Children's Room

JREF 930 ANC	<i>The Ancient World, Volumes 1-5</i>
JREF 930 EXP	<i>Exploring Ancient Civilizations, Volumes 1-11</i>
JREF 930 MCI	<i>Civilizations</i>

#### Some Helpful Reference Books in Adult Section

REF 930 ENC 1980	<i>Encyclopedia of Ancient Civilizations</i>
REF 930 HIS 1996	<i>Ancient and Medieval World, Volumes 1-2</i>

**Browse the shelves.** Go to the shelf where the reference 930 books are located in the Children's Room or Adult section and see what you can find there.

Reference books can only be used in the library and cannot be checked out so that they are always available. Photo copy the pages you need.

### Nonfiction Books

Nonfiction books contain facts and information. In the library nonfiction books are organized by **topic**. Each topic has its own **Call Number**, based on the Dewey Decimal System.

The books on your topic have the **same Call Number** whether they are found in the Children's Room (J), the Adult Nonfiction section or Reference section. Books with YA in front of the Call Numbers are in the Adult Nonfiction section. Books with REF in front of the call number are in the Reference section.

Most of the books you need for this project have Call Numbers in the 900s.

930	General Ancient History	938	Ancient Greece, Minoans, Mycenae, Macedonia
931	Ancient China	939	Ancient Phoenicia, Nubia & Africa, Hittites, Kush
932	Ancient Egypt	948	Vikings
933	Ancient Israel	950	Mongols
934	Ancient India	952	Ancient Japan
935	Ancient Persia, Babylonia & Mesopotamia, Assyrians	966	Ancient Ghana, Mali
936	Ancient Celts	972	Aztecs, Maya
937	Ancient Rome & Greece	985	Incas



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### Nonfiction Books - Continued

**Browse the shelves.** Go to the shelf where your topic Call Numbers are located in the Children's Room or Adult section. Once you find a book on your topic, look to the left and right of the book to find more.

**Early Peoples Digital Library.** Features 16 different cultures and contains information about their origins, social structure, daily life & customs, and more. Includes video tutorials and interactive activities. Go to [www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html). *Scituate library card required from home.*

**Reference EBOOKS.** View and read reference books and encyclopedias online through your web browser. Go to [www.scituate townlibrary.org/reference\\_ebooks](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org/reference_ebooks); click *History & Social Studies* category.

**Research Databases.** Find magazine & encyclopedia articles, images, audio and video clips. Try *World History in Context*, *Early Peoples Digital Library*, *Biography in Context*, *InfoTrac Student Edition*. Go to [www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html](http://www.scituate townlibrary.org/StudentDatabases.html).

*Please note: Most libraries keep very few print magazines. Magazine articles can be found in the Research Databases.*

### Biographies of Important People

Biographies are books about specific people, and are organized by the last name of the person the biography is about. There is a Biography section in the Children's Room (J Biography) and in the Adult section (Biography and YA Biography) of the Library.

When researching your topic, look for names of important people listed in encyclopedias and reference books. Looking up some of them might provide more information on your topic.

#### Some Helpful Biographies

J 936 OLI	<i>Attila the Hun</i> by Marilyn Tower Oliver
J BIOGRAPHY CONFUCIUS	<i>Confucius: the golden rule</i> by Russell Freedman
J BIOGRAPHY MOCTEZUMA	<i>Moctezuma</i> by Struen Reid
J BIOGRAPHY CAESAR	<i>Julius Caesar</i> by Samuel Willard Crompton
J BIOGRAPHY CLEOPATRA	<i>Cleopatra: ruler of Egypt</i> by Kerrily Sapet
J BIOGRAPHY HANNIBAL	<i>Hannibal</i> by Robert Green
J BIOGRAPHY GENGHIS KHAN	

### Nonfiction DVDs

Sometimes the best way to get information is to see it! The nonfiction DVDs are located by the DVD movies. Keep an eye out for documentaries on the History Channel, Discovery Channel and National Geographic Channels at home!

#### Some Movies Available in our Nonfiction DVDs

*Ancient China: Masters of the Wind and Waves* • *The Celts*  
*Carthage: A Journey Back in Time* • *Greek Accomplishments*  
*The Incas* • *Mayans & Aztecs, Ancient Lands of the Americas*



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### Internet

#### Some Websites to Check Out

**American Museum of Natural History**

[www.amnh.org](http://www.amnh.org)

**Best of History Websites – Ancient/Biblical**

[www.besthistorysites.net/index.php/ancient-biblical-history](http://www.besthistorysites.net/index.php/ancient-biblical-history)

**BBC History – Ancient History**

[www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient)

**British Museum – Ancient China**

[www.ancientchina.co.uk](http://www.ancientchina.co.uk)

**British Museum – Ancient Egypt**

[www.ancientegypt.co.uk](http://www.ancientegypt.co.uk)

**British Museum – Ancient Greece**

[www.ancientgreece.co.uk](http://www.ancientgreece.co.uk)

**British Museum – Ancient India**

[www.ancientindia.co.uk](http://www.ancientindia.co.uk)

**Carnegie Museum of Natural History**

[www.carnegiemnh.org](http://www.carnegiemnh.org)

**The Discovery Channel History Guide**

[dsc.discovery.com/guides/history/history.html](http://dsc.discovery.com/guides/history/history.html)

**The Food Timeline**

[www.foodtimeline.org](http://www.foodtimeline.org)

**Fordham University - Internet Ancient History Sourcebook**

[www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.asp](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.asp)

**The History Channel**

[www.history.com](http://www.history.com)

**Multnomah County Library – Ancient & Classic Cultures**

[www.multcolib.org/homework/anchsthc.html](http://www.multcolib.org/homework/anchsthc.html)

**National Geographic Kids Page**

[kids.nationalgeographic.com](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com)

**Odyssey Online**

[carlos.emory.edu/ODYSSEY](http://carlos.emory.edu/ODYSSEY)

**PBS**

[www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)

**PBS NOVA**

[www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova)

#### Some Search Engines (like Google, but better)

**Awesome Library**

[www.awesomelibrary.org](http://www.awesomelibrary.org)

**Internet Public Library Kidspace**

[www.ipl.org/div/kidspace](http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace)

**Kids Click**

[www.kidsclick.org](http://www.kidsclick.org)

**Kidipede**

[www.historyforkids.org](http://www.historyforkids.org)

**Sweet Search – A Search Engine for Students**

[www.sweetsearch.com](http://www.sweetsearch.com)

**ThinkQuest**

[www.thinkquest.org/library](http://www.thinkquest.org/library)

**Yahoo Kids**

[Kids.yahoo.com](http://Kids.yahoo.com)



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### Internet - Continued

#### Tips on Evaluating a Website

- ✓ Is the information **related** to your topic?
- ✓ Is the information easy to understand? Is it well written, spelled correctly and clear?
- ✓ Is the information **current**? When was it written?
- ✓ Can you tell who wrote the information? Are they experts? Are they from a school or other kind of organization?
- ✓ Do you think the website is **biased**? Is the website or author selling something to do with this information?
- ✓ Is the website based on fact or opinion? How can you tell? Is it **reliable**?
- ✓ Remember to gather your bibliography information! If you can't find all the information (date, author, etc.), are you sure this site is appropriate for your research?

#### **More Tips**

- *Determine good keywords before you start.*
- *Double check info using more than one source.*
- *Look to see when a site was last updated.*
- *Usually, sites ending in .gov or .edu contain trustworthy facts.*

### A Final Word

**If you need help, ask a librarian! That's what we're here for!**

#### **Questions? Concerns?**

**Email Ann: [alattinville@ocln.org](mailto:alattinville@ocln.org)**

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85 Branch Street, Scituate, MA 02066  
781-545-8727  
[www.scituate-townlibrary.org](http://www.scituate-townlibrary.org)