

Aim: How did rivers in the fertile crescent support the growth of cities in Mesopotamia?

HW: Use p134-137 in your textbook to answer question 1 a. b. & c. on p137 in your NB. (Lunch mtg for all students who didn't do writing hw)

Do Now: Draw a crescent. What objects are in the shape of a crescent?



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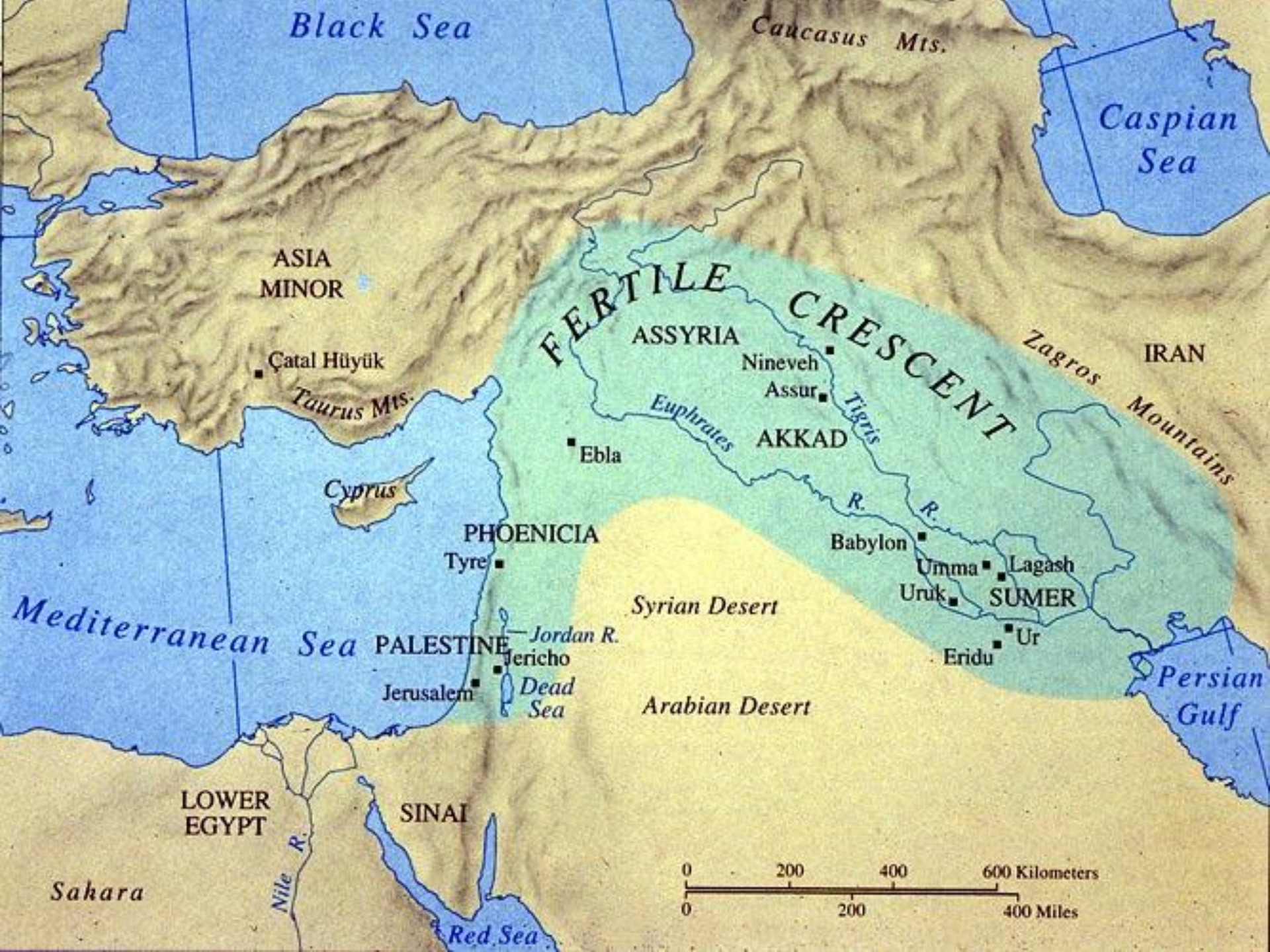
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Rivers Support the Growth of Civilization

- **The Tigris and Euphrates rivers flow over a region in the past known as Mesopotamia. The land between these two rivers is the Fertile Crescent.**
- **The Fertile Crescent is got its name because the land is rich or fertile farmland that is good for growing crops and is shaped like a crescent.**
- **Every year the rivers flooded bringing silt a mixture of rich soil and tiny rocks to the land making it great for farming.**



Black Sea

Caucasus Mts.

Caspian Sea

ASIA MINOR

Çatal Hüyük

Taurus Mts.

Cyprus

PHOENICIA

Tyre

PALESTINE

Jordan R.

Jericho

Jerusalem

Dead Sea

LOWER EGYPT

SINAI

Sahara

Nile R.

Red Sea

FERTILE CRESCENT

ASSYRIA

Nineveh

Assur

AKKAD

Ebla

Babylon

Umma

Lagash

Uruk

SUMER

Ur

Eridu

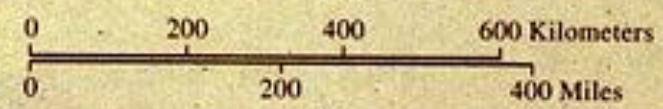
Syrian Desert

Arabian Desert

Zagros Mountains

IRAN

Persian Gulf



New farming techniques led to the growth of cities.

- **These rivers helped to support the growth of civilizations. (What things does a civilization have?)**
- **Farming wasn't easy in the Fertile Crescent because of flooding and it rained very little.**
- **Mesopotamians solved these problems using irrigation- a way of supplying water to an area of land, building up riverbanks or by digging canals which are human made waterways.**



Guided Read Aloud: p134 to 136

Independent work:

1. Describe how the Mesopotamians solved the problem of not having enough water to grow crops.

2. Read on p 136 and 137 the sections on “Food Surpluses” and “Appearance of Cities” . How did controlling the river water cause cities to grow?



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