

TERRA TIME STORIES

You are invited to join
me on an adventure to the
past called
Ancient Mesopotamia

BOOM!





Introduction

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

In Mesopotamia, they lived off the land,

Built their city, hand helping hand.

First laws, first writing, so very very old.

Even some art is made from gold.

Between two rivers, it all began,

The first civilization of ancient man.



It's ART TIME!

SPACE CHARIOT

To be included in the design:

1. Three geometric shapes, such as square, circle, triangle, rectangle,
2. Within the "chariot" include a pattern using lines.
3. Draw Two buttons that are labeled with super power.
4. Draw yourself in the space chariot with space clothing.
5. Draw what is around your chariot-for example on Earth, in space, underwater or on another planet.

ART ACTIVITY: Part 1- Design "chariot" that can fly into space, and has 2 super powers.

MATERIALS: Paper, Pencil, Eraser, Crayons or Colored Markers, Black Sharpie (Ultra Fine Point),

ART LANGUAGE: Line, Shapes (geometric), Color, Patterns

ART PROJECT STEPS: *check off each step*

- ☐ 1. Decide what shapes and how you will arrange them to design your "space chariot".
- ☐ 2. Lightly draw, using a pencil, the shapes that will make up your chariot.
- ☐ 3. Retrace the chariot shapes with black sharpie.
- ☐ 4 Add a pattern using lines. See example.
- ☐ 5. After finishing the design and including yourself in the chariot, color in.
- ☐ 6. Draw what is around you chariot.
- ☐ 7. To frame, glue artwork onto a colored piece of construction paper.



Making a Pattern:

Repeat a line at least 3 times. Making sure the ends of each line touches another line. Change direction with lines till area is filled. Color in each individual shape. Repeat colors throughout the design.

LINES: STRAIGHT, CURVED, ZIG ZAG, WAVY

ART ACTIVITY: Part 1- Write your initials(or a pattern) in cuneiform on clay.

MATERIALS: Paper, Pencil, Eraser Black Sharpie (Ultra Fine Point), chop stick/metal screw/marking tool,
Sculpey (2 oz., any color, oven-baked clay)

ART LANGUAGE: Line, Shapes, Patterns

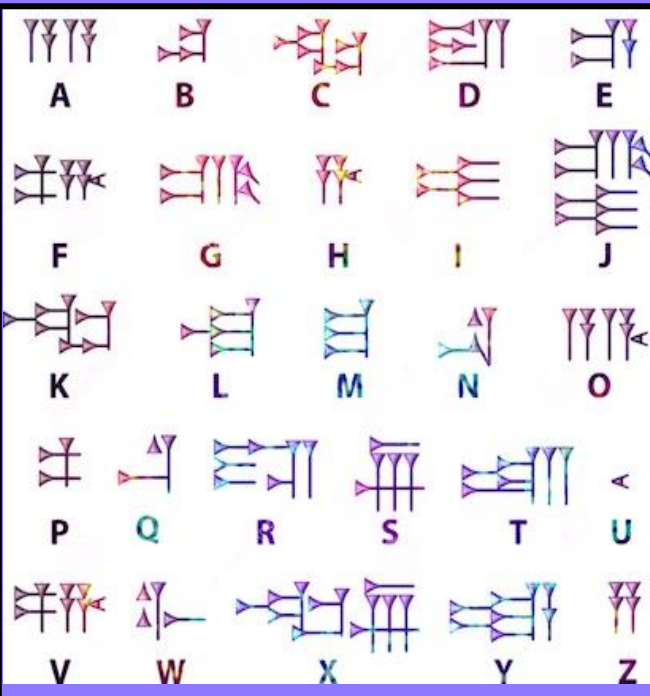
ART PROJECT STEPS: *check off each step*

- ☐ 1. Write your initials on paper (or a pattern) with a pencil using the symbols, which correspond to each letter of the alphabet.
- ☐ 2. Flatten & smooth out Sculpey. The more you work the clay, or set it in the sun, the softer it gets.
- ☐ 3. Practice using the end of the marking tool creating a triangular shape.
- ☐ 4. Using the marking tool press into the clay your initials.
- ☐ 5. Just re-smooth the clay, if you don't like the effect.
- ☐ 6. When finished, bake at 275 degree F. (130C) for 15 minutes per ¼ in thickness.
DO NOT microwave or exceed temp or baking time. Under adult supervision.
- ☐ 7. <https://www.penn.museum/cgi/cuneiform.php> A web site that writes name in cuneiform.



LANGUAGE ARTS

On a piece of clay, pictures they drew
The very first writing for you to view.
First were symbols call cuneiform
Then words and ideas to inform.
Stories of kings, heroes and war
Million of words for your mind to soar.



Before Bronze



After Bronze



Examples of student art - writing on clay

ART ACTIVITY: Part 2- Invent symbols for each letter of the alphabet.

MATERIALS: Paper, Pencil, Eraser Black Sharpie (Ultra Fine Point)

ART LANGUAGE: Line, Shapes, 'Patterns

ART PROJECT STEPS: *check off each step*

- ☐ 1. Write each letter of the alphabet on paper.
- ☐ 2. Next to each letter make a design.
- ☐ 3. Use this new alphabet to write a secret message.

ART ACTIVITY: Part 1- Create a creature that has 2 different animal body parts.

MATERIALS: Heavy Paper, Pencil, Eraser, Oil Pastels, Pictures of Different Animals (source is Internet) Paper Towel Sheet (for pastels on fingers)

ART LANGUAGE: Line, Shapes (organic /freeform), Texture

ART TIPS: Q-tip or tip of paper towel for blending colors, White oil pastel can be used on top of another color to blend and lighten, Toothpick can be used to add scratch lines on top of pastels, EXPERIMENT on separate paper to view the different effects. Texture can be created by making dabs/dotting of different colors in one area - called stippling. When finished you can trace each shape with the edge of the black oil pastel.

ART PROJECT STEPS: check off each step

- ☐ 1. Collect a number of pictures of different animals
- ☐ 2. Lightly draw on paper, using a pencil, the shapes that will make up your creative creature.
- ☐ 3. Select colors- Review ART TIPS- Practice on separate paper
- ☐ 4. Fill in shapes with color and add many details including a background.
- ☐ 5. When using oil pastels, make sure each shape and white background is filled in.
- ☐ 5. To frame, glue artwork onto a colored piece of construction paper.



Student Examples

A Language Arts Activity!

ART ACTIVITY: Part 2 Write *MY CREATIVE CREATURE STORY*.

MATERIALS: Paper, Pencil, Eraser or Computer

ART LANGUAGE: Imagination

ART PROJECT STEPS: check off each step

- ☐ 1. Think about the information you need to include in story.
- ☐ 2. Write a brief draft/outline of your ideas.
- ☐ 3. After writing, review and re-read. Can you add any other details?
- ☐ 4. Can type on computer and add story to bottom of art work.

MY CREATIVE CREATURE STORY

Include in this story the following:

1. Name your creature
2. Describe the animal parts in detail.
3. Where does it live- example forest, sea etc.
4. What type of food does it eat?
5. What is its purpose- Is it a good guy or a bad guy?

REMEMBER USE YOUR IMAGINATION
a good story has lots of details



My name is Enki
Check out
these Links!

To continue the story click on the links:

Ducksters,

https://www.ducksters.com/history/mesopotamia/ancient_mesopotamia.php

Mesopotamia Inventions,

<https://mesopotamia.mrdonn.org/inventions.html>

The History of Ancient Mesopotamia in 15 Minutes,

<https://youtu.be/qXTCbVLeOnE>

About the Author/Artist:

Jeanette Wachtman for over forty years has been an art educator and author receiving numerous state and national teaching awards. Presently, she is teaching at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia, where she received the *2016 Outstanding Part-time Teaching Award* from the College of the Arts.

Wachtman is a visual artist and has received numerous awards in juried exhibitions. Her watercolor paintings, jewelry, pottery, mixed media artwork and photography have been exhibited in art galleries, one-woman shows and in national and state venues since 1970's.