

The Beginnings of Human History



When did it all begin?



❧ Scientists believe the Earth is 4.6 billion years old

❧ *There are different theories for how the Earth was created*



When were the first humans on the Earth?



- ❧ No one knows a specific time for when the first humans appeared on the Earth
- ❧ Humans were on the Earth for hundreds of thousands of years before it is documented in writing
 - ❧ *This is called prehistory*

What were early humans like?

- ❧ Prehistoric humans (before writing) were nomads – *they moved from place to place to follow their food*
- ❧ They were hunters and gatherers
- ❧ They didn't have a system of writing
- ❧ They were very uncivilized

When did human history begin?

- ❧ Human history began when humans learned to read and write
- ❧ The first evidence of human writing was 5,000-6,000 years ago (somewhere around 4,000 BC or earlier)
- ❧ As humans learned to farm, they began developing cities, which then turned into civilizations

What was the first civilization?



❧ Mesopotamia – the first civilization

❧ Located in an area in Asia called the Fertile Crescent

❧ People settled in this area around 7000 BC

❧ Over time, these early villages developed into the world's first civilization

What happened after Mesopotamia?

- Over time, other civilizations developed at different locations around the world
- Civilizations continued to advance over thousands of years and eventually turned into the world we live in today