The Indus River Valley

Harappan civilization began to develop in India in the Indus River Valley in what is now Pakistan and western India. One of the largest cities in the region was Mohenjo Daro. Ruins of this ancient city show that high brick walls surrounded the city in order to defend it against floods and hostile neighbors. The city was built according to a grid system. Its brick streets crossed at right angles and were lined with storehouses, shops, and homes.

MAP ACTIVITY

1. Use a light color to highlight the Indus River Valley.

2. What sea is located south of the Indus River valley? Label it on the map.
3. What river runs near Harappa? What other river joins that river just west of Harappa? Label both rivers on the map.

4. Update the map’s legend to reflect your changes and colors.

**ANALYZING MAPS**

1. **Movement** If you lived Harappa, what is the number of miles you would have to travel to get to Mohenjo Daro?

2. **Location** In what modern-day countries is the Indus River Valley located?

3. **Location** What reasons might the people of Mohenjo Daro have had for constructing high walls around the city?

4. **Place** How might the location of both Harappa and Mohenjo Daro led to their end?

**EXTENSION ACTIVITY**

Imagine that you are an ancient engineer and you have been given the task of designing a new city somewhere in the Indus River Valley. Where would you place your city? What would it look like? How would you build it to protect it from invaders and natural disasters such as floods? What would you name it? Draw your new city on a large sheet of paper.
Primary Source
Mohandas Gandhi’s Autobiography

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?
1. Truth, which is the basis of all morality
2. If someone harms you or offends you, do not respond in anger, but try to respond with kindness.
3. Answers will vary. Examples: It was harder because turning the other cheek, or swallowing your anger, can be difficult. It was easier because he believed that returning good for evil was morally right, and being good made him happy.

History and Geography

MAP ACTIVITY
1. Colors will vary.
2. Arabian Sea
3. Ravi River; Chenab River

INTERPRETING MAPS
1. More than 300 miles
2. Pakistan and western India
3. Because they wanted to protect their city from floods as well as invading neighbors.
4. Perhaps being located on the river caused the cities to end, because the river flooded and destroyed the cities. Or perhaps invaders came from the sea and up the river and destroyed the cities in their path.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY
Students’ drawings and descriptions will vary but should include answers to the questions.

Social Studies Skills

PRACTICE THE SKILL
Russian is descended from East Slavic, one of the Slavic languages. Hindi descended from Sanskrit; the path was Proto-Indo European to Indo-Iranian to Indic to Sanskrit to Hindi.

APPLY THE SKILL:
1. The only relation that they have is that they are all part of the Indo-European language group.
2. Sogdian
3. I would predict that Latvia and Lithuania are near each other because their languages are close to each other on the diagram, and countries that are far apart probably would have unrelated languages.

Chapter Review

REVIEWING VOCABULARY, TERMS, AND PEOPLE
1. monsoon
2. nonviolence
3. reincarnation
4. nirvana
5. alloy
6. inoculation: practice of injecting a person with a small dose of a virus to help him or her build up defenses to a disease
7. subcontinent: large landmass that is smaller than a continent, usually separated from the rest of the continent by physical features
8. fasting: going without food, various motivations (protest, expression of religious devotion)

COMPREHENSION AND CRITICAL THINKING
1. The ideas of the sacred Vedic texts began to blend with ideas from other cultures. This blending created Hinduism.
2. The Guptas thought it would strengthen their rule and would make the empire more stable.

REVIEWING THEMES
1. geography
2. religion
3. politics
4. technology and innovation

REVIEW ACTIVITY: WORD SEARCH
Students’ word searches will vary in terms of placement of words; however, all should include the required number of words.