

World of Wonder

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities

Release week November 18, 2012: Mesopotamia

Standards

- **Current Events:** Students will search for news about what is happening today in the area once known as Mesopotamia.
- **Social Studies:** Students will research and report on the Mesopotamians' gods and demons.
- **Social Studies:** Students will report on Mesopotamians' methods of sea travel.

Activities

1. **Use the News:** Examine the map of Mesopotamia. What countries are currently in that area? You may need to look at an atlas. Read the international news and share anything you find that relates to this area of the world.
2. The Mesopotamians worshiped many gods and feared demons and monsters. Who/what were these beings? Research and choose two of them to report on. If you can find ancient artwork depicting them, be sure to include it in your report or poster.
3. The people of Mesopotamia traded, traveled and fought battles in boats. What were these boats like, and where did they travel? Which seas, rivers and oceans? Research and report on their ancient sea travel. A model of a boat could be interesting and challenging to make. Materials to model with could include paper, cardboard, craft sticks, toothpicks, etc.

World of Wonder meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade.