Ancient World

Theme 1: The River Valley Civilizations

'River Valley Civilizations' aims at enabling children to understand how our present-day society has evolved. It will help them understand the reasons for development of the earliest societies near rivers. Children will be aware of and appreciate the rich and flourishing civilization on the basis of historical evidences. It will further help to develop in them a world historical perspective of the contribution made by various cultures to the heritage of mankind.

Learning outcomes:

Children will be able to:

identify and locate the sites of major river valley civilizations on an outline map of the world;

discuss and understand with reason the development of early civilizations near river beds;

question, discuss and appreciate the sources to know these civilizations;

compare the society then (in the past) and now;

discuss, debate and appreciate the development in early civilizations;

draw a comparative analysis between Indus valley civilization and Mesopotamian, Egyptian and Chinese civilization;

appreciate the contribution of these civilizations in today's world.

The River Valley Civilizations		
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources
Civilization'- meaning Reasons for settlement near rivers. Major Civilizations: Indus Valley Mesopotamian Egyptian Chinese Main Characteristics: Origin Location (*Map) Rivers Society Social life - Family, Community Town Planning Occupations Trade Art and (Craft), Architecture Religious Beliefs	 Organising discussions (whole class/group) on the different civilizations, important features and the decline. Organising Audio Visual shows on: Map of Ancient civilizations Bharat Ek Khoj Sources – excavated sites, remains etc. followed by a discussion with the children. Providing opportunities to: analyse cause, effects and relationship between different river valley civilizations. identify and define world's earliest civilizations. Providing opportunities to discuss: Reasons for river settlements. Geographical significance to location of ancient civilizations. Sources to know these civilizations. 	 Documentaries on different civilizations. PPT on the sources to know these civilizations. The documentary "The Masters of Rivers". Guest lectures by local historians Outline map of the world. Maps showing River Valley Civilizations. Clay Audio-Visual materials. Charts and pictures on different civilisations. Museum.

The River Valley Civilizations		
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources
Decline	 Assigning a Project work as a group activity on undertaking a comparative study between river valley civilizations in different parts of the world. Making models by children based on the Seal, Great bath (using only environmental friendly materials) - Clay models. Preparing a Scrap Book by each child – on pictures related to the civilization. Enacting/ role plays, for example: children can imagine themselves as traders from Harappa on a business trip and give an account of the trading systems. Making projects (group/individual) on the Planning in Indus Valley Civilization / tracing the rise and decline of any ONE of the four civilizations in the theme. Showing the extent of related civilizations and rivers through Map Work. 	

Integration: Geography **Life Skills:** Appreciation for Heritage

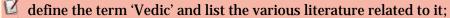




Theme 2: The Vedic Civilization

The aim of the theme 'Vedic Civilization' is to acquaint and inform children of India's glorious past dating back to 3500 years ago. They will understand and appreciate how ancient literatures like Vedas and Epics provide an insight into our past and the genesis of our present-day society.

Learning outcomes:



- summarize the life style of the Vedic period by relating it to the epics;
- discuss and identify the differences and similarities between the early and later Vedic period;
- trace the changing position of woman in early and later Vedic society;
- analyze and appreciate the rich cultural heritage of India in terms of values, beliefs and traditions.

The Vedic Civilization			
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources	
Aryans in the Sapta Sindhu & Gangetic valley 'Vedas' and 'Vedic' - meaning The four Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas Epics Ramayana & Mahabharata Brahmavarta (Early Vedic age) Political Organization Social life Economic life Aryavarta (Later Vedic age) Political Org. Social Life Four Ashramas Gurukul System Economic life	Providing opportunities for: Sharing their personal experiences on Epic stories of Ramayana and Mahabharata, Hawan and chanting of Shlokas. Explaining the terms "Vedas' and 'Vedic'. Comparing the society, lifestyles and position of women and discuss their ideas and views. Highlighting the differences between early and later Vedic period. (Economic, Social and Cultural). Underlining the difference in the evolution of religion: open air – temple, Gods and Goddesses. Discussing with each other and their parents briefly the teachings of Shrimad Bhagwadgita. Preparing a slide show on the oldest city (Vedic city) of India, Varanasi. Organising Audio Visual shows on: The Ramayana and Mahabharata through animated videos. "Bharat Ek Khoj." The early and later Vedic period – Comparing the society, lifestyles and position of women.	Narratives Narratives Maps of ancient times — Indus, Sapt Sindhu and Gangetic valley. Videos on the story of Ramayana and Mahabharata Slide shows /Videos on Varanasi. Animated version of Ramayana — "The Vedic Way". Bharat Ek Khoj. Documentary on 'Manual Scavengers'. — attend in later Vedic period. PPTs on Vedic society. Mapping skills Visit to a museum Role Play Guest Lecture Copy of the Bhagwadgita Amar Chitrakatha Series on: Ramayana. Mahabhartha, Krishna and Bhagwadgita. Experts	

The Vedic Civilization		
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources
Concerns	 Preparing a Scrap Book (by each child) on – Musical Instruments during the Vedic period. Using maps to show the spread of the civilization along Saptsindhu and Gangetic valley through Map Work. Organising a visit to a museum and interacting with a guide. Discuss what all children saw and their views on the same after the visit is over. Inviting Experts/ special guests to class to discuss the ideas in the Vedic literature, the epics and the Bhagwad Gita. Enacting/ role plays by children on the main characters from the Ramayana & Mahabharata. Organising a Skit – on the basic Gurukul System. 	ivesources

Integration: Arts Education and Mathematics



Theme 3: Mahavira & Buddha - Great Preachers

The theme on 'Mahavira and Buddha" will enable children to understand and appreciate the teachings of Gautam Buddha and Mahavira. Use of interesting pedagogy can help them compare and find the similarities and dissimilarities between the two ideologies. It will also develop their understanding on the importance of Ahimsa and tolerance which will in turn help them become responsible citizens.

Learning outcomes:

- discuss the social conditions that led to the rise of new religions ideology Buddhism and Jainism:
- explain the teachings and ideologies of the two great preachers;
- compose and analyze the reasons that led to the spread and decline of Jainism and Buddhism;
- critically analyze the importance of Ahimsa and tolerance in today's society.

Mahavira & Buddha - Great Preachers		
Key Concepts /	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning
Concerns		Resources
Social conditions for	Organising discussions on:	Videos and Films—
rise of Jainism and	Explaining the social conditions during the	films and life story of
Buddhism.	later Vedic period.	Gautam Buddha.
Vardhamana Mahavira	Comparing the teachings of Mahavira and	Experts.
Jainism	Buddha.	Charts, pictures on
Early life	Explaining the ideas of Ahimsa, the Four	Buddha and
Teachings (Ahimsa,	Noble Truths, Nirvana and the Eight-fold	Mahavira.
Caste system,	path.	Quizzes.
Karma, Rebirth,	Narrating stories on:	Guest lectures
Search for truth)	The period of these times through Amar	Role Play
Sub Sections of	Chitra Katha.	Creative expression -
Jainism	The lives of Gautama Buddha and Mahavira.	preparing Charts on:
Gautama Buddha	Organising a field trip to visit and explore	Four Noble Truths
** Buddhism	caves like Ajanta, Ellora, Karla caves, and many	Eight-Fold Path
Early life	more. (Buddhist era).	Comics – Amar
* Teachings (Four	Preparing charts (by children) on:	Chitra Katha & Jataka
Noble Truths, Eight-	The Four Noble Truths	Tales.
Fold Path, Ahimsa,	The Eight-Fold Path	Books on stories from
Karma, Nirvana,	Conducting a Seminar and inviting resource	the life of Gautama
Caste System)	person/s to enable children to understand the	Buddha and
Sub Sections of	significance of 'Ahimsa' in today's world.	Mahavira.
Buddhism	Organising:	
A comparative study	a debate on Ahimsa	
between Jainism and	a quiz competition/games on Buddha and	
Buddhism	Mahavira.	
Spread and Decline.	Enacting/ Role Plays by children: of stories from the Jataka tales.	
	as Gautam Buddha and Mahavira on the	
	stories based on their lives.	
	stories based on their lives.	

Theme 4: Rise of Kingdoms & Republicans

'Rise of Kingdoms and Republicans' will enable children to understand the way men became rulers in the past and their ambition for expansion of their empires resulted in wars and invasions. This will help them understand how our present day social and political life has evolved through the kingdoms of the past.

Learning outcomes:

- identify and locate Janapadas and Mahajanapadas on an outline map of India;
- explain the terms "Janapadas" and "Mahajanapadas" and list the major powerful kingdoms;
- draw a time line, mark the rise of Magadha and list the rulers who ruled it;
- question and give reasons for the Mahajanapada being so powerful;
- reflect critically on the invasion of Alexandra.

Rise of Kingdoms & Republicans		
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources
Introduction to terms – Janapadas & Mahajanapadas. Powerful Kingdoms: Vatsa Avanti Kosala Magadha Mighty Kingdom of Magadha: Rulers (Bimbisara, Ajatashatru Rule of Nandas Alexander's Invasion Chandragupta Maurya (Brief Mention of his life before he became the ruler)	 ▶ Organising discussions on: Constructing a timeline to plot the rise of Kingdoms, republicans using an ancient map of India. Identifying and naming the powerful Kingdoms of Vatsa, Avanti, Kosala and Magadha. Describing the keywords and Janapadas and Mahajanapadas. Outlining the different rulers of Magadha and describing Alexander's invasion. The discovery and use of Iron ore and development of new kingdoms. The reasons for foreign invasions. Analysing critically the reason for some Republican Janapadas. > Organising audio visual shows to show the extent of the powerful Magadha Empire and the invasions of Alexander the Great. Narrating stories: Of Alexander and King Porus. Folk tales > Using Maps to show the extent of the powerful kingdoms of India during this period. ▶ Enacting/ Role plays/Skits by children on: The War between Alexander and King Porus and the famous dialogues between them. 'Ashwamedha yagna' and becoming 'Chakravarty Samrat'. Inviting Resource personnel/ Guest lecturers /Local historian to talk on the reasons for Magadha being the most powerful Mahajanapada during those times. 	 Audio/Visuals Books – The story of Alexander and Porus. Outline map of India. Materials necessary for roleplay. Related PPT's/Videos.

Theme 5: The Mauryan Empire

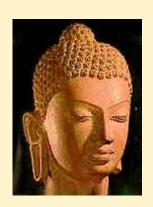
The 'Mauryan Empire' with special mention of Emperor Ashoka who gave up war provides an insight into the glorious traditions of non-violence and a welfare state. The children will get to know about 'Chanakya' a famous Indian thinker and appreciate his ideas in 'Arthashashtra'. It will enable children to understand the relationship between the concept of Ashoka's welfare state and present-day society.

Learning outcomes:

- infer and illustrate the features of the Mauryan empire through the sources of Indica and Arthashastra and list the notable rulers;
- discuss and analyze the features of Mauryan administration;
- trace the ascent and extent of the Ashoka empire and outline the causes and effects of the Kalinga war;
- analyze the effects of Ashoka's 'Dhamma' and reflect on the relevance of the teachings of Dhamma in present day society;
- appreciate the public welfare activities of Ashoka.

The Mauryan Empire			
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources	
 Sources: Indica & Arthashastra Chandragupta Maurya Role of Chanakya Bindusara Ashoka (Ascend to throne, extent of kingdom, Kalinga War, Welfare state) Ashoka's Dhamma & Edicts. Mauryan Administration With reference to Pataliputra Mauryan Art and Economy Decline. 	discussions on: The different sources from the Mauryan period and asking children to describe them. Analysing the role and influence of Chanakya in the administration of Magadha. Outlining the rule of Ashoka and the extent of his empire. Critically analysing the reasons for Ashoka being called a great emperor. Describing the influence of Ashoka's Dhamma and edicts. The public welfare activities of Ashoka. Exploring and analysing the reasons for the decline of the Mauryan Empire. Conducting Audio visual shows on: Bharat — Ek Khoj, Episodes on The Mauryan Empire, Ashoka the Great, Chanakya, followed by discussion. Tracing the extent of Ashoka's Empire on an outline map of India.	 Audio Visuals Debate − Who was a greater King? Chandragupta or Ashoka 	

The Mauryan Empire		
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources
	 Enacting/ Role Plays by children on: The Kalinga War; Chanakya and Chandragupta Maurya. Narrating: stories on the Kalinga war. short moral based stories. Encouraging children to write a brief report on the influences of Buddhism on Emperor Ashoka. Organising a visit / field trip to any of Ashoka's rock edicts / local museum and then asking them to prepare individual or group reports. 	





Theme 6: The Golden Age – Gupta Empire

'The Golden Age - Gupta Empire' will provide children an insight into the glorious past of India owing to advancements in trade, economy, literature, astronomy, Ayurveda, and mathematics. Interesting pedagogies will help children understand the reasons for this period of study to be known as the Golden Age in the History of India and they will learn to appreciate India's rich heritage.

Learning outcomes:

- draw the extent of Gupta empire on an outline map of India;
- discuss and analyze the sources to know about Gupta rulers;
- identify and describe the important achievements of the Gupta rulers -Chandragupta I & II and Samudragupta;
- evaluate and appreciate the achievements during the Gupta period to summarize the golden age of India.

The Golden Age — Gupta Empire		
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources
Sources: The history of the Gupta Empire Rulers of the Gupta Empire: Chandragupta I Samudragupta II The Golden Age: Features / Characteristics Administration Economy Religious Life Scientific Progress Art, Architecture and Literature Education	 Organising discussions on: Exploring and understanding the term "Golden Age". Listing the names of the rulers during the Gupta reign. Comparing the periods of the Mauryan dynasty vs Gupta dynasty. Showing audio visuals on: Kalidasa, Aryabhatta Samudragupta – A Great Warrior Drawing the extent of the Gupta Empire on an outline map of India. Guiding children individually or in groups to make a Collage/Scrap Book of Mauryan age Coins, value of coins, metals used, figures, etc. Helping children to make coin models of the Gupta Age, using clay. Making a chart to highlight the scientific progress during the Gupta Age with reference to contributions of Aryabhatta. Discussing and writing reports:	 Audio/Visuals Mapping Skills Research Report writing Visit to a museum Bulletin Board-collate achievements of Golden age Travellers account on India's Past & Present Children's history of India

Theme 1: Rural Local Self Government

The theme 'Rural Local Self Government' aims at children developing an understanding of the main features and functions of the Panchayati Raj System and other local bodies in India. Children will be able to understand the functioning of the three tiers of the Panchayati Raj System.

Learning outcomes:

Children will be able to:

- describe the rural local self-government (Panchayati Raj system);
- explain the features and functions of local government at the village, block and district levels;
- appreciate the role played by the local bodies;
- initiate responsibilities to help local bodies.

Rural Local Self Government **Key Concepts / Suggested Learning Suggested Transactional Processes Concerns** Resources **Local-Self Government-Working** with children to create a web Learner's daily life chart of the Panchayati Raj System. experiences meaning Discussing the composition and > Web chart Panchayati Raj System: functions of each unit of the Panchayati Writing essay, report, Panchayats (Features Raj system. and Functions) application Assigning groups, the activity of listing **Gram Sabha: Mock Panchayat** and discussing the composition and An interview with a Gram Panchayat functions of each unit of the system. Nyaya Panchayat member of panchayat Conducting a mock panchayat (role play) Media and ICT on the Block Samiti: to - solve a money lending issue between Composition Panchayat elections, two members of a village. **Functions** and self-government. Encouraging children to write an essay > Tracking the municipal Zila Parishads: on - 'A day in your area without elections **Composition** supervision'. **Functions** Asking children to prepare a PowerPoint presentation on the role responsibilities of a Zila Parishad (after accessing information on the related topic). Assigning project to groups of children to show the working of all the tiers of the Panchayati Raj system. Organising a field trip to a nearby village to see the working of the Panchayat. Assigning groups of children, the task of conducting an interview with a member of Panchayat and the Sarpanch to discuss the common problems faced by them at the village level and the role of the Panchayat in solving them. Conducting a survey in the locality to find the existing problems of the area and ways to solve them.

Theme 2: Urban Local Self Government

The theme 'Urban Local Self Government' aims at providing information and developing children's understanding of the composition and functions of Municipal Corporations. Transactional processes will help children in taking up responsibilities and solving common problems in their surroundings. These will also enable them to be proactive citizens who will give back to society through an understanding of their duties.

Learning outcomes:

- explain the term 'Metropolitan' and state the names of four major cities;
- locate and identify metropolitan cities on an outline map of India;
- describe the functioning of Municipal Corporations;
- demonstrate the ability to take initiatives and responsibility in solving community problems such as sewage, traffic jam, pollution, cleanliness;
- create simple awareness programmes in the vicinity on public welfare issues.

Urban Local Self Government			
Key Concepts / Concerns	Suggested Transactional Processes	Suggested Learning Resources	
 Define the term — 'Metropolitan' Names of major cities— Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai Municipal Corporations Composition Functions (Water Supply, Public health Sanitation, Education, Lighting, Public Security, Public Works, Maternity and Child Welfare) Municipalities *Brief Mention. 	 Sharing of prior knowledge and experiences children have of small and big cities, and the city they live in. Building on children's previous learning. Providing opportunities to children for participating in activities such as: Describing the term 'Metropolitan' and listing the major cities of India. Showing and locating the major cities on an outline map of India. Listing and explaining the composition and functions of the Municipal corporations. Principles and practices of local governance among officials and elected members. Assigning children, the task of conducting an interview with the local municipal corporation on common problems of the area. E.g. garbage collection, unsafe water, poor street lighting, etc. Writing a report (individually or in groups) on problems faced by people in metropolitan cities, such as the water logging during monsoons. Organizing a cleanliness drive in the school - under the Swachh Bharat Initiative. 	 Collate data to compare population in towns and in cities (any four) Newspaper, ICT. Mapping skills. Hands on experience. Map of India. Local Municipality Office and people working there. Questions to conduct an interview. Tracking the municipal elections 	