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| **Big Idea** | **Emerging** | **Developing** | **Proficient** | **Extending** |

**Ancient Civilizations**

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| Geographic conditions shaped the emergence of civilizations | Describes the geographic conditions of a specific civilization | Demonstrates the connection between geographic conditions and the development of a civilization | Analyzes the strategies civilizations used to overcome challenges in the physical environment | Assesses the causes of the fall of civilizations, including both geographic factors and interactions with other civilizations |
| Makes observations regarding changes from old to new maps of an area | Uses maps of early civilizations and the modern era to draw information about changes in geography and human settlement | Analyzes a variety of sources, including maps, charts and graphs to draw inferences about how and why ancient civilizations settled where they did and why and how they interacted with others | Creates a system of classification for eras of time and changes in human civilizations |
| Religious and cultural practices that emerged during this period have endured and continue to influence people | Recognizes that ancient peoples had diverse religions and cultures | Describes religious and cultural practices that emerged during this period that have endured and continue to influence people. | Compare and contrast how religious and cultural practices that emerged during this period have endured and continue to influence people. | Defends an opinion on which ancient religious and/or cultural practice has the most influence on people in present day. |
| Understands that people have different beliefs and values related to spirituality | Discusses differing beliefs around a specific spiritual topic (e.g. creation, afterlife) | Compares values, worldviews, and beliefs across periods of time and cultures | Infers reasons for changes in values, worldviews and beliefs over time |
| Increasingly complex societies required new systems of laws and government | Understands that rules and laws are needed for people to live together | Explains reasons why as societies grew, they became increasing complex and required new systems of laws | Analyzes the economic, social and political complexity of an ancient civilization | Compares the economic, social and political structures of an ancient civilization |
| Recognizes that humans have gone through various stages of development | Describes significant changes in early human history and assesses their possible causes | Assesses significant human and technological evolutions in early history and the short and long term consequences of them | Argues the significance of the technological innovations of an ancient society based on their long term impact |
| Economic civilizations and trade networks can lead to conflict and cooperation between societies | Recognizes that economic specializations and trade networks exist | Understands the importance of economic specializations and trade networks within societies | Examines the ways economic specialization and trade networks can lead to conflict and cooperation between societies. | Argues the ethics (positive and negative impact) for the individual as well as the collective identity of a group of a historical conflict |