

Year 6 - Swans
Spring 1

History - : What can we tell about Shang Dynasty from one tomb? Significant people



What I should already know : The children will have an understanding of ancient civilisations in their Egyptian/Greek topics. They will have learnt about the Bronze age in KS1. They will have some understanding of the different types of farming methods during these times and know about reincarnation and the different beliefs in God.

Enquiry Questions

What was the Shang Dynasty and when did it exist?

How was the British Bronze age similar to the Shang Dynasty?

Were all people equal during the Shang Dynasty?

How can excavating 'poo' help us understand a person's diet?

Who was Fu Hao?

How can bones tell the future?

Key Vocabulary

Agriculture - farming

Ancient Civilisations - the first settled and stable communities that became the basis for later states, nations, and empires.

Artisans - Talented group including potters, stonemasons and workers with bronze and jade - Lower than nobles but higher than farmers

Authentic- genuine/not a copy

Bias - our perception of the way things are or should be, even if it's not accurate.

Bronze - A strong metal alloy made from copper

Celts - The ancient culture known as the Celts once extended far beyond the British Isles. With territory stretching from Spain to the Black Sea, the Celts were geographically the largest group of people to inhabit ancient Europe.

Cowrie - small shells that were used as money

Dynasty - A sequence of rulers from the same family

Emperor - The ruler of a country

Evidence - proof that something is true.

Hunter-Gatherers - refers to how a group of people get their food. They find it growing wild or hunt and fish for it. They do not grow any food.

Objective - not influenced by or based on a personal viewpoint—based on the analysis of an object of observation only.

Oracle Bone - This was heated and cracked by holy men to seek advice from king's ancestors

Nobles - Under the ruling family; the highest ranking social class

Primary source- documents, images, relics, or other works that provide firsthand details of a historical or scientific event.

Pagoda - A religious temple that is built as a tower with many tiers and roofs

Reliable - trustworthy

Secondary source - works that analyze, interpret, or merely describe historical or scientific events. They're written based on firsthand accounts without being firsthand accounts themselves.

Slave - someone who is forced to work for someone else without pay.

Social class- a group of people who are similar in terms of their income, the kind of job they do, and their level of education, among other factors. Social class is mainly about wealth, but it's also connected to status within society.

Subjective - based mainly on opinions or feelings rather than on facts a subjective report

Tomb - a place where a dead person is buried.

Tribe - a group of people who share the same language, culture and history

Historical Skills

Pupils will:

- 1) continue to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, Local and World History,
- 2) establish clear narratives within and across the period of study; note connections, contrasts and trends over time
- 3) develop the appropriate use of historical terms.
- 4) address and devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity & difference and significance and construct informed responses that involve thoughtful selection and organisation of relevant historical information.
- 5) continue to develop their understanding of how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources and that different versions of past events may exist, giving reasons for this.

Map

The Shang's Ruling Area Map

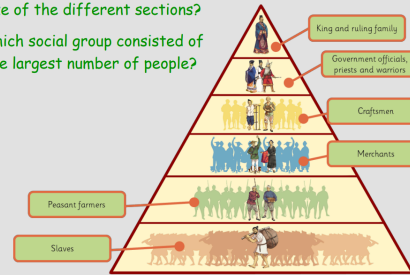
Land under the rule of the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046 BC)



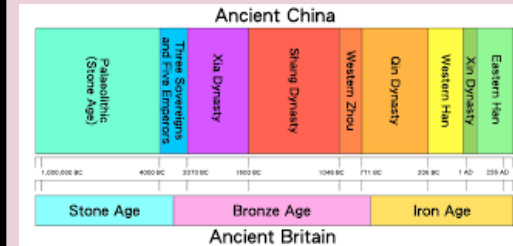
Social Hierarchy

What do you notice about the size of the different sections?

Which social group consisted of the largest number of people?



Dates / timeline



What was happening in the rest of the world?

Bronze age (Britain) - 3300BC-1200BC.



Tutankhamun reigned - 1341BC-1323BC



Indus Valley - 2600 B.C. to 1900 B.C. A vast ancient civilization developed along the valley of the River Indus in modern-day India and Pakistan.



Ancient Greece - 800-146 BC



Trojan war - conflict between the early Greeks and the people of Troy in what is now Turkey.



The Celts were making Stonehenge



Top 10 facts

1. The Shang Dynasty is sometimes also called the 'Yin' Dynasty.
2. The last capital of the Shang Dynasty was called Yin Xu - many oracle bones have been found there.
3. The people of the Shang Dynasty worshiped their dead ancestors.
4. A Shang week lasted for 10 days.
5. The Shang enjoyed music, and played pipes, bells, ocarinas, chimes & drums.
6. The Shang were the first Chinese to develop writing, using pictographs.
7. Shang craftsmen were experts with Bronze - many beautiful artefacts have been found.
8. The Shang Year was 360 days - 12 months of 30 days. It was based on the lunar month.
9. The Shang Dynasty performed human sacrifices - killing humans as an offer to the Gods.
10. The Name for the battle in which Emperor Zhou was overthrown is the Battle of Muye.

Curriculum Links: Art English - writing Art - sumi-e