From Hunting-Gathering to Growing Food

Lesson Plan

Contents

- An overview of the evolution of Man
- Understanding the manner in which Man developed from a hunter and gatherer of food to someone who could grow his own food

Objectives

- > To understand the stages through which Man passed as he evolved from hunter to farmer
- > To learn about the conditions he faced and the manner in which he dealt with them
- To know the skills he learnt, and the discoveries and inventions he made to assist him in his development
- To appreciate the intelligence that evolved in coping with his environment and the time it took as well as the geographic spread

■ Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Globe
- ▶ Pictures, atlas and wall maps
- Blackboard
- ▶ Internet

Ⅲ Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Explain the evolution of Man to students by showing them pictures, videos and films about human development.
- ▶ Explain the significance of the physical and environmental changes, and the skills man developed to cope with them.
- ▶ Compare man's growth from birth and infancy to his present level of understanding and skills.
- ▶ Use wall maps, atlas and globe to explain the lesson.
- ▶ Encourage projects: Making a project booklet of Man's progress.

Background and Reading

- ▶ Read the lesson aloud and explain, sharing the aids, etc., pausing to examine and explain the data in the pictures and maps.
- ▶ Particularly focus on the way human beings adapted to changing circumstances, new discoveries like fire, making tools and weapons with stones, wood, and then with mud and metals, inventing the wheel and finding multiple uses for it, domesticating animals and birds, becoming herders, growing food, settling into a community, farming, creating artwork houses, granaries, pottery, jewellery made of stones, shells, bones, etc., painting.

Our Ancestors

- ▶ From anthropoids to Homo sapiens
- ▶ Nomads and food gatherers

The Ages

- ▶ Palaeolithic-Old Stone Age [500,000-10,000 BC]
- ▶ Mesolithic-Middle Stone Age [10,000-8000 BC]
- ▶ Neolithic-New Stone Age [8000-4000 BC]
- ▶ Chalcolithic-Copper Age [4000-2000 BC]
- ▶ Description of life and development of Man in each age: Nomad to semi-nomad to settled life as farmer; from hunting to domesticating animals, to herding and cultivation; discovering fire; inventing tools and weapons; discovering aids to movement; and inventing the wheel, pottery.
- ▶ Society and areas where these have been found.

Assessment Corner

Oral Assignment

A. Ask for answers at random from the students. Confirm the right answers. Let the students write down the answers if they like.

Written Assignment

B–F. The teacher has two options—(i) Either do these exercises orally first and then ask the students to write them down. OR (ii) Ask the students to write the answers on their own. Then the teacher can announce the correct answers to the students and ask their partners to cross-check them.

In either case, the answers can be written as homework and the teacher can check them in the class.

Think Tank

G. HOTS questions: Discuss the questions in class and let the students write the answers to G and H as homework. The teacher should assess individual work.