<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. What Archaeology is All About</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Land of Egypt</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The Hittites</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ur of the Chaldees</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Assyria</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Babylon: City of Gold</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Persia</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Petra</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The Phoenicians</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The Dead Sea Scrolls</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Israel</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answer Key</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 1
What Archaeology is All About

Text: Pages 6 to 19

Terms to Know and Spell

accession year
AD
archaeology
artifact
BC
carbon dating
ceramic
chronology
debris
EB
exile
exodus
hieroglyphs
LB
MB
millennium
non-accession year
Short Answer

1. What does the word archaeology mean?

2. For what three reasons were cities built on hills?

3. When did people first start using coins?

4. From what Greek word does our word Bible come from?

5. What are the four main periods of archaeological time?

Activities

1. See if you can find a small piece of damp clay, or plasticine, and with the end of a screwdriver impress your name on it. This would then look like a seal impression.

2. Take some everyday items and set up an archaeological treasure hunt. Have an adult bury the items in shallow holes, covering them with a thin layer of soil. Carefully go about digging them up and classifying your treasures in a journal.
CHAPTER 2
Land of Egypt

Text: Pages 20 to 29

Terms to Know and Spell

Asiatic
baulk
dowry
drachma
dynasty
mastabas
Nubia
Pharaoh

Short Answer

1. What is the Egyptian name for Egypt?

2. Who was the first Egyptian king to build a pyramid?

3. Who built the biggest pyramid in Egypt?

4. What was the name of the Egyptian river god?

5. What did the Egyptians in dynasty 12 mix with their bricks to hold them together?
Activities

1. See if you can find a small cardboard or plastic box. Make some mud out of earth and a little water, mix some dry grass with it and put it into the box. When it is fairly dry turn the box upside down and lift it off the brick you have made. Let it dry.

2. Develop a chart with your family history or dynasty. Try to trace the ancestry of one parent or both, depending on the information you have available. List these as names on a graph or draw an actual tree with the branches representing the family members.
CHAPTER 3
The Hittites

Text: Pages 30 to 35

Terms to Know and Spell

amphitheater
Anatolia
bathhouse
inscription

Short Answer

1. 3000 years ago which was the strongest nation in the Middle East?

2. What two nations did the Syrians think had come to attack them?

3. Who were the Hittites descended from?

4. How often were the Hittites mentioned in the King James Version of the Bible?

5. Who wrote the book “The Empire of the Hittites?”
Activities

1. Draw a rough map of Turkey and write in the names Constantinople and Boghazkale where you think they should be.

2. Research the ancient Hittite civilization online or at your local library. How many resources can you find available for this people once thought to be a myth?
CHAPTER 4
Ur of the Chaldees

Text: Pages 36 to 41

Terms to Know and Spell

centurian

Chaldees

nomad

papyrus

tanner

Short Answer

1. In the Bible, how many references are there to Ur of the Chaldees”

2. Who was the main excavator of Ur of the Chaldees?

3. Why did Woolley not excavate the cemetery as soon as he found it.”

4. What was the name of the people who occupied ancient Ur?”

5. What did Woolley find in the Death Pits of Ur.”
Activities

1. Draw a rough map of Turkey and write in the names Constantinople and Boghazkale where you think they should be.

2. Research the ancient Hittite civilization online or at your local library. How many resources can you find available for this people once thought to be a myth?
CHAPTER 5
 Assyria

Text: Pages 42 to 45

Terms to Know and Spell

Armenians

bulla

Medes

scarab

seal

Short Answer

1. Who discovered Nineveh?

2. What was the name of the ruins where Layard first started digging?

3. What was the name of the king of Israel that was mentioned on the black pillar Layard found in Nimrud?

4. What was the name of the king of Israel when Sennacherib besieged Jerusalem?

5. How many cities did Sennacherib claim he conquered?

12 The Archaeology Book Study Guide
Activities

1. Try and get some plasticine or soft clay. Press it down flat. Then get a pencil or small twig of a tree the width of a pencil. Cut one end to form a triangle, then press this end down horizontally and vertically on the clay. You will thus be making cuneiform impressions.

2. Sometimes archaeologists must learn a language to help them understand a culture better, just as Layard studied the Persian language. Choose a language to study briefly and obtain several books from the library to help you learn some basic words and phrases.
CHAPTER 6
Babylon: City of Gold

Text: Pages 46 to 51

Terms to Know and Spell

cuneiform

strata

syncline

Short Answer

1. What was the name of the cuneiform record which told a story similar to the Bible record of Noah and the flood?

2. Which Assyrian king compiled a library of tablets in Nineveh?

3. What did the Babel builders stick their bricks together with?

4. Which king made Babylon a city of gold?

5. Which Bible prophet predicted that Babylon would become uninhabited?
Activities

1. Log onto the Internet and type in Ishtar Gate. Under this heading click on “The Ishtar Gate Berlin Museum.” This will bring up a picture of the gate from Babylon that Professor Koldewey sent back to Berlin.

2. Research the Bible account of the Flood and compare this account with other accounts from around the world. A good resource from a Christian perspective is *Flood Legends* by Charles Martin.
CHAPTER 7
Persia

Text: Pages 52 to 59

Terms to Know and Spell

Persia

ryton

Short Answer

1. Who was the king who first carved out the Medo-Persian Empire?

2. In what year did he conquer Babylon?

3. Which Persian king left a trilingual inscription on the rock face at Bisitun?

4. What was the name of the great Persian city that Darius built?

5. What was the name of the official who tried to destroy all the Jews in Persia?

Activities

1. Read the book of Esther in the Bible and count how many times the word God is used. You may be surprised.
2. Study the celebration of Purim that is still celebrated today. Observe how the traditions and even the games relate back to Queen Esther.
CHAPTER 8
Petra

Text: Pages 60 to 69

Terms to Know and Spell

bedouin

cistern

Edom

Edomites

Nabataeans

siq

theater

wadi

Short Answer

1. In what year did Burckhardt discover Petra?

2. Whose descendants occupied Petra?

3. What were his descendants called?
4. Which Bible prophet wrote a book about Petra?

5. Which Roman emperor had a road made through Petra?

Activities

1. Pottery in Petra was very thin. Try and get some plasticine or clay and make a small teacup without a handle. See how thin you can make it.

2. Set up a tent in your yard and talk about what it would be like to live life as a Bedouin, wandering from place to place. Consider staying overnight in the tent, weather permitting.
CHAPTER 9
The Phoenicians

Text: Pages 70 to 77

Terms to Know and Spell

Baal

causeway

Yehovah

Short Answer

1. What were the four main cities of ancient
   Phoenicia”

2. What trees was Phoenicia famous for?

3. Whose tomb did Pierre Montet find?

4. Which Bible prophet challenged the prophets of
   Baal?

5. Which Bible prophet predicted that ancient Tyre
   would never be found?
Activities

1. Find a map of the Mediterranean Sea and try to work out how far it is from Phoenicia, modern Lebanon, to Spain. That is how far Phoenician ships sailed.

2. Make a relief of your hand by pressing your palm and fingers into a flat piece of clay or by pressing foil over your hand to make a metallic looking imprint. See how much detail you can add once the initial impression is made.
CHAPTER 10
The Dead Sea Scrolls

Text: Pages 78 to 83

Terms to Know and Spell

scroll

vellum

Short Answer

1. In what year was the first Dead Sea Scroll found?

2. How many letters were in the Hebrew alphabet?

3. What were most of the Dead Sea Scrolls written on?

4. Which is the longest acrostic in the Bible?

5. What was the name of the settlement near the cave where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found?

Activities

1. Find a King James version of the Bible and look at Psalm 119. At the beginning of every eighth verse you will find a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Try and write out the 22 letters of the alphabet.

2. Take several pieces of white or tan cardstock. Write or paint a favorite Bible passage across it. When dry, roll up the “scroll” and tie it off with ribbon or string.
CHAPTER 11
Israel

Text: Pages 84 to 93

Terms to Know and Spell

annunciation

Calvary

Golgotha

grotto

Messiah

ossuary

Passover

Short Answer

1. Which Roman Emperor adopted Christianity as the state religion?

2. Jesus name in Hebrew was Yeshua. What does that mean?

3. In what city did Jesus live most of his life?

4. Which city in Galilee was called Jesus own city?
5. What does the word Calvary mean?

Activities

1. At the back of most Bibles are maps of Palestine. Try and calculate how far it was from Jerusalem to Galilee. Jesus walked this distance many times.

2. Utilizing poster board or cardstock, create a map of Israel. You might consider paints or markers to color the rivers, lakes, and land. Glue on small blocks or other objects to represent towns and cities.
ANSWER KEY

CHAPTER 1

What Archaeology is All About — Text: Pages 6 to 19

Terms to Know and Spell

accession year — the year a king actually began his reign

AD — Anno Domini (the year of our lord); the years after the Christian era began

Archaeology — study of beginnings

Artifact — an item from antiquity found in an excavation

BC — Before Christ; the years before the Christian era began

carbon dating — calculating the amount of carbon left in organic material that has died

ceramic — something made of pottery

chronology — time periods, dates in which events happened

debris — discarded rubbish

EB — the Early Bronze Period

exile — a people sent out of their home country to another country

exodus — going out, applied to the Israelites leaving Egypt
hieroglyphs — Egyptian picture writing

LB — the Late Bronze Period

MB — the Middle Bronze Period

millennium — one thousand years

non-accession year — the first complete year of a king’s reign

pottery — a vessel made of clay fired in a kiln

stratum — a layer of occupation exposed by excavations (plural strata)

synchronism — something happening at the same time

tell — a Hebrew word meaning “ruins” applied to hills on which people once lived

**Short Answer**

1. A study about beginnings
2. Defense, heat, and floods
3. 600 BC
4. Biblos
5. Early Bronze, Middle Bronze, Late Bronze, Iron Age.

**CHAPTER 2**

Land of Egypt — Text: Pages 20 to 29

Terms to Know and Spell

Asiatic — in Egyptian terms, someone from Syria or Palestine
baulk — the vertical ridge left between two excavated squares in the ground

dowry — gift given to a prospective bride at the time of her marriage

drachma — a Greek coin worth about a day’s wages

dynasty — a succession of kings descended from one another

mastabas — mud-brick structures beneath which were tomb chambers

Nubia — a country south of Egypt now called Sudan

Pharoah — title applied to many Egyptian kings

**Short Answer**

1. Misr
2. Zoser
3. Khufu
4. Hapi
5. Straw

**CHAPTER 3**

**The Hittites** — Text: Pages 30 to 35

**Terms to Know and Spell**

amphitheater — a circle of seats surrounding an area where gladiators fought each other or fought wild beasts

Anatolia — mountainous area in central Turkey
bathhouse — a club where citizens could bathe in cold, warm, or hot water

inscription — writing made on clay, stone, papyrus, or animal skins

Short Answer

1. The Hittites
2. Hittites and Egyptians
3. Heth
4. Forty six
5. William Wright

CHAPTER 4

Ur of the Chaldees — Text: Pages 36 to 41

Terms to Know and Spell

centurian — a military officer in charge of a hundred men

Chaldees — people who used to live in southern Iraq

nomad — a person who lived in a tent that could be moved from place to place

papyrus — sheets of writing material made from the Egyptian papyrus plant tanner

Short Answer

1. Four
2. Sir Leonard Woolley
3. He wanted to learn more about Ur before he excavated such an important site
4. Sumerians
5. Evidence of human sacrifice
CHAPTER 5

Assyria — Text: Pages 42 to 45

Terms to Know and Spell

Armenians — people who lived in eastern Turkey and northern Iraq

bulla — an impression made on clay with a seal (plural bullae)

Medes — people who used to live in northern Iran

scarab — model of a dung beetle with an inscription engraved on it for sealing documents

seal — an object made of stone, metal, or clay with a name engraved on it used to impress in soft clay

Short Answer

1. Henry Austin Layard
2. Nimrud
3. Jehu
4. Hezekiah
5. Forty six

CHAPTER 6

Babylon: City of Gold — Text: Pages 46 to 51

Terms to Know and Spell

cuneiform — a form of writing using a wedge-shaped stylus to make an impression on a clay tablet

strata — a layer of occupation exposed by excavations
syncline — a boat-shaped geological formation

Short Answer

1. The Gilgamesh Epic
2. Ashur-Bani-Pal
3. Asphalt
4. Nebuchadnezzar
5. Isaiah

CHAPTER 7

Persia — Text: Pages 52 to 59

Terms to Know and Spell

Persia — a country in central Iran

rhyton — a drinking vessel shaped like a human or animal

Short Answer

1. Cyrus the Great
2. 539 BC
3. Darius the Great
4. Persepolis
5. Haman

CHAPTER 8

Petra — Text: Pages 60 to 69

Terms to Know and Spell

bedouin — Arabs living in tents with no fixed address

cistern — a hole dug in rock to store rainwater

30  The Archaeology Book Study Guide
Edom — country in southern Jordan

Edomites — people descended from Edom, also known as Esau, Jacob’s brother

Nabataeans — people descended from Nabaioth who occupied Petra

siq — narrow valley between two high rock formations

theater — a stage for actors in front of which was a semi-circle of seats

wadi — a dry river bed, carrying water only when it rained

**Short Answer**

1. 1812 AD
2. Esau’s
3. Edomites
4. Obadiah
5. Trajan

**CHAPTER 9**

**The Phoenicians** Text: Pages 70 to 77

**Terms to Know and Spell**

Baal — a word meaning “lord” and the name of a Phoenician gold

causeway — a built-up road

Yehovah — a Hebrew name for God, usually spelled Jehovah, but there is no “J” in the Hebrew alphabet
Short Answer

1. Gebal, Berytus Sidon and Tyre
2. Cyprus
3. Ahiram
4. Elijah
5. Ezekiel

CHAPTER 10

The Dead Sea Scrolls — Text: Pages 78 to 83

Terms to Know and Spell

Scroll — papyrus or animal skin document rolled up into a cylinder

vellum — animal skin treated to be used as writing material

Short Answer

1. 1947
2. 22
3. Vellum
4. Psalms 119
5. Qumram

CHAPTER 11

Israel — Text: Pages 84 to 93

Terms to Know and Spell

annunciation — an announcement

Calvary — Latin word meaning “skull”
Golgotha — Hebrew word meaning “skull”

grotto — cave

Messiah — meaning “Anointed One” and applied to an expected Jewish leader

ossuary — a box in which human bones were preserved

Passover — Jewish ceremony celebrating the Exodus from Egypt

**Short Answer**

1. Constantine
2. Yehovah saves
3. Nazareth
4. Capernaum
5. Skull
Get ready to explore the world of archaeology, from ancient alphabets to ziggurats! The archaeological discoveries of the Middle East continue to confirm the historical accuracy and reliable authority of the Bible.

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**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Dr. David Down**, a field archaeologist for over four decades, excavates regularly in Israel and has been involved in numerous digs over the years. He leads annual tours to the Middle East and is editor/publisher for the journal *Diggings* and the magazine, *Archaeological Diggings*. 

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