





A social studies/language arts program - literature based, creative, and cross-curricular.



# Kush Program Overview

**World History** 

**Ancient Civilizations** 









# Written and Produced by Joyce and David Mollet

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# **Program Review**

The Wide-horizon Education Resources (W.E.R.) program for teaching the Ancient Civilizations, is a comprehensive program offering teachers a creative, imaginative, literature based approach to history-social studies.

It has many features that make it attractive to both students and teachers.

- The program is offered in modular format. This allows teachers to be selective in the modules they decide to use. Teachers are also able to work either sequentially or selectively through the program.
- Stories form an integral part of the teaching methodology and the authors work closely to the premise that history is a story well-told.
- Great care has been taken with the readability level of the text making it easily accessible to students.
- Assignments are very varied in their degree of difficulty and in the nature of the work involved, making them suitable for students of a wide range of aptitudes, abilities, temperaments and with a variety of learning styles.
- Drama and *Readers Theatre* are used as tools of instruction making the teaching and learning process both enjoyable and effective.
- Staff development, including induction courses and workshops, is conducted by the coauthors, Dr. David Mollet and Joyce Mollet. Both presenters have long experience as classroom teachers and as teacher educators.

In both our workshops and teaching packs we keep the balance between creativity and accountability. We address the importance of developing the academic content and skills standards of students without sacrificing imaginative and creative lessons.

Introduction World History: Kush

# WideHorizon Education Resources (W.E.R.) Resource Pack for the Ancient Civilization of Kush

WideHorizon Education Resources (W.E.R.) offers teachers a program based on **proven curriculum innovation** that comprehensively covers the ancient civilization of Kush.

# A Classroom Pack contains: a Teacher Guide; b Student Reference Books (non-consumable); c 35 Papyrus with Outline Illustration; A Starter Pack contains: a Teacher Guide; b 1 Student Reference Book (non-consumable); c 1 Papyrus with Outline Illustration;

- a Master Color Guide;
- a selection of Blackline Masters;
- Colored Reproductions.

- a Master Color Guide:
- a selection of Blackline Masters;
- Colored Reproductions.

Kush contains two modules, with five lessons in each.
A lesson is usually longer than a class period.
Many lessons cover 2 or more class periods.

W.E.R. P	Packs available:		
Unit 1	Prehistory/Early Humankind	Unit 6	Greece
Module 1	Understanding the Past	Module 1	Geography and Early Greeks
Module 2	Cro-Magnons and Neolithic Farmers	Module 2	Athenian Government and Law
	8	Module 3	Athens and Sparta
Unit 2	Mesopotamia	Module 4	Mythology
Module 1	Geography and Early History	Unit 7	India
Module 2	Sumer		
Module 3	Writing and Mythology	Module 1	
Module 4	Law and Religion	Module 2	Later Empires
Module 5	Empires of Assyria and Babylonia	Unit 8	China
		Module 1	Early China and the Shang and Zhou
Unit 3	Egypt		Dynasties
Module 1	Gift of the Nile	Module 2	The Qin and Han Dynasties
Module 2	Beliefs and Practices		·
Module 3	Life in Ancient Egypt	Unit 9	Rome
Module 4	New Kingdom	Module 1	Geography and Early Rome
		Module 2	The Republic and Pax Romana
Unit 4	Kush	Module 3	Life in the Roman Empire
Module 1	Geography and Early Kush	Module 4	Christianity and the Fall of Rome
Module 2	An Independent State		
		_	cox.net for three free sample e-lessons from
Unit 5	Israelites	•	Early Humankind, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Kush,
Module 1	Patriarchs, Judges and Kings		Greece, India, China and Rome.
Module 2	Prophets and Priests	See http://riinstructions	nembers.cox.net/e-lessons/ for list and s.

Introduction World History: Kush

#### **Contents of the Resource Pack**

#### **Teacher Guide**

The Teacher Guide contains:

- the complete text from the Student Reference Book;
- teaching notes for every lesson (named *Lesson Guidelines*, these notes precede the lessons in each module);
- suggested answers for the questions in the student assignments;
- suggestions for class and group discussion;
- a monitoring and assessment rubric for a targeted assignment in each module;
- a matrix for recording one form of monitoring;
- a packet of blackline masters ready for duplication (these blackline masters are also included in the text and supplied, where appropriate, with suggested answers);
- oclored reproductions for use in particular assignments.

#### **Student Reference Book** (nonconsumable)

The Student Reference Book contains:

information text, named Student Information Sheet (SIS);

activity pages, named Student Activity Sheet (SAS);

stories;

dramas.

Each page is clearly labeled with icons that inform students of the nature of the text or assignments.

#### **Papyrus**

A sample of authentic papyrus, imported from Egypt, is supplied for each student. The student's papyrus has an outline illustration suitable for painting and a master color guide is also provided.

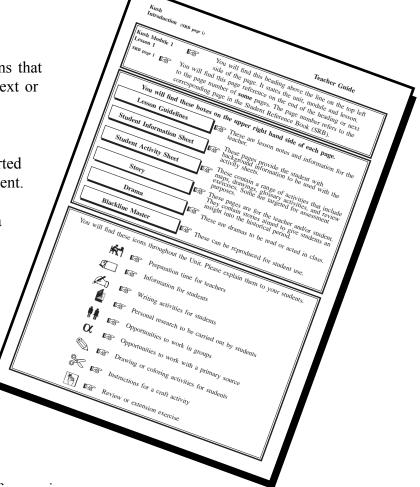
#### **Blackline Masters**

A packet of blackline masters is supplied in the Teacher Guide. The students use these in various assignments to:

- record answers;
- prepare a text for *Readers*Theatre;
- facilitate craft or art work

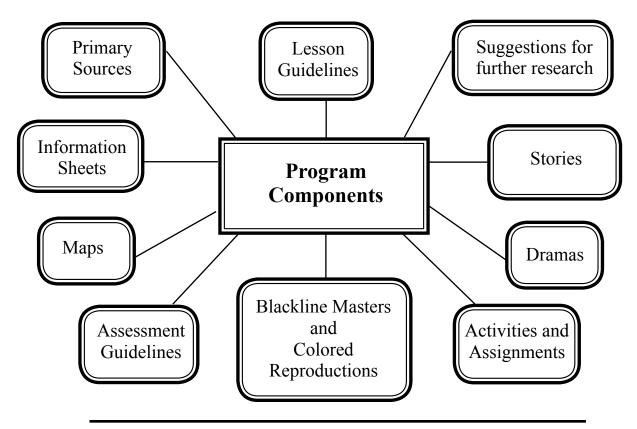
#### **Colored Reproductions**

Colored Reproductions are provided for use in specific assignments. These encourage students to develop their knowledge through visual learning.



# **Program Components**

This graphic overview summarizes the different types of components found in the WideHorizon Education Resource Pack on Kush. Information on each follow.



### **Lesson Guidelines**

In the *Teacher Guide* each module begins with *Lesson Guidelines*. These contain teaching notes for every lesson.

#### These notes:

- identify the goals of the lesson;
- identify the skills that are developed in the lesson;
- provide suggested answers for questions in the assignments;
- give background information as necessary;
- make reference to additional resources suitable for the lesson:
- suggest an outline plan for the lesson.

The lesson that acompanies this graphic sheet introduces the study of Kush and is found in the Lesson Guidelines. The illustrations show evidence of similar hair braiding in ancient Kush, modern Sudan (which is the main geographic location of ancient Kush), and modern day America.



#### **Stories**

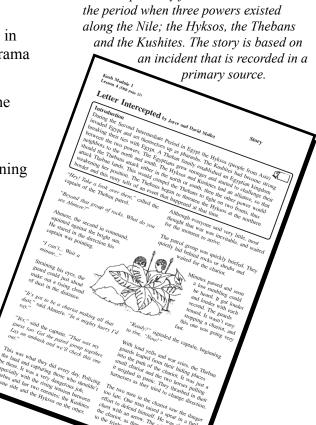
In W.E.R. Packs, information is presented to students in three main ways; through *Student Information Sheets*, drama and through stories.

The genre of storytelling as an essential element in the methodology, and is used for a variety of reasons.

Storytelling is common to all cultures. As a mode of transmitting knowledge it has been used from the beginning of our cultural development, and has always been a powerful tool for understanding.

The authors advocate that storytelling should have a similar place in the teaching process today as in past times; that it becomes an important element in the methodology of teaching, and that it should form an integral part of lesson planning.

Listening to a story involves more than just a cognitive understanding of what is being said. It involves the feeling life and imagination and as such is a very effective mode for encouraging active participation in learning.



This sample story from Kush deals with

# **Information Sheets**

The Student Information Sheets provide basic information and supplement the stories and dramas.

The SIS often provides an overview of a particular historical period, whereas the story and assignments study aspects of the period in more depth.

The material is presented in different formats, for example, text, diagrams, graphic overviews, graphs, maps, illustrations,

- whichever format helps to convey the information more clearly.

In this sample the information is provided simply and concisely. Two traditions in Meroitic pottery are compared. The illustrations show examples from each and the

facts are organised in a table.

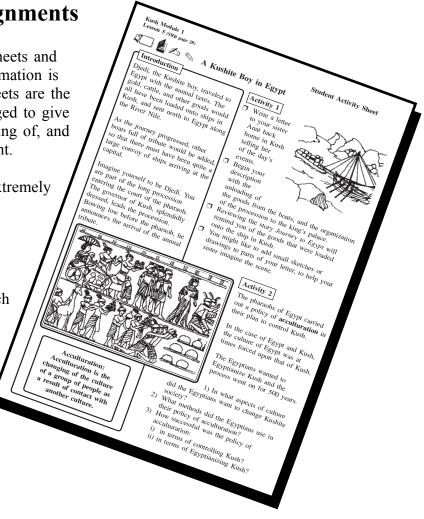
# **Activities and Assignments**

Whereas the Stories, Information Sheets and Dramas are the means by which information is presented to students; the Activity Sheets are the means by which students are encouraged to give expression to, extend their understanding of, and interact with, new concepts and content.

The nature of these activities is extremely varied. They include:

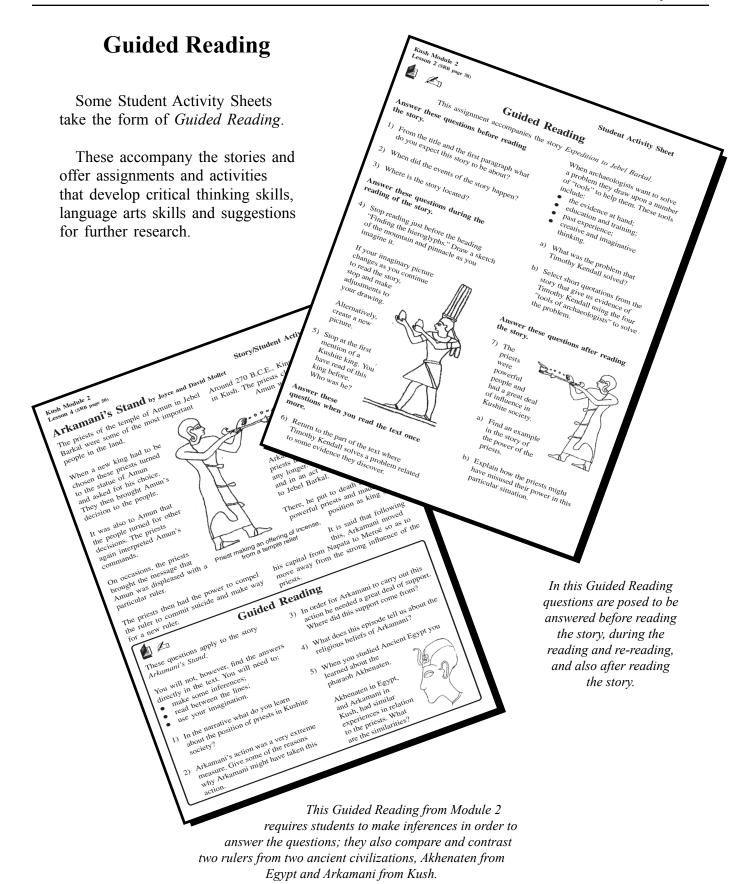
- working through different types of writing assignments
- simulations
- preparing and giving a public speech
- working with mathematical concepts
- craft projects
- listening to music
- using illustration as a means of recording
- artwork
- working with a graphic overview
- using a matrix
- using skills from other disciplines.

There are many more.



#### Some of the different writing assignments found in the Activity Sheets in Kush

Module 1 Lesson 4 page 32
Module 1 Lesson 1 page 9
Module 1 Lesson 4 page 32
Module 2 Lesson 1 page 46
Module 2 Lesson 4 page 66
Module 1 Lesson 2 page 19
Module 1 Lesson 1 page 13
Module 1 Lesson 5 page 38
Module 2 Lesson 4 page 66
Module 2 Lesson 2 page 54
Module 2 Lesson 4 page 66
Module 2 Lesson 3 page 59
Module 1 Lesson 1 page 13
Module 2 Lesson 5 page 76
Module 2 Lesson 4 page 70



# **Primary Sources**

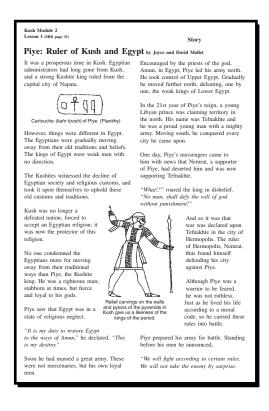
Unfortunately, primary source texts from Kush are not available to us at present. The reason for this is that the spoken language of these people is unknown to scholars today and it does not bear any resemblence to a modern language.

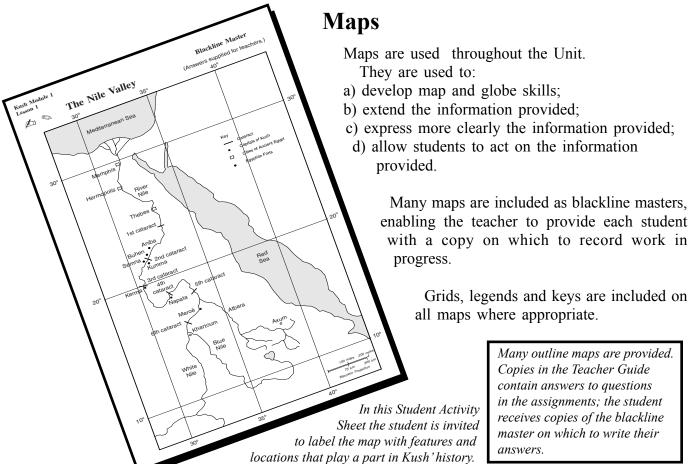
For example, we have many examples of Meroitic script but the meaning of the text remains a mystery. However, when these texts are eventually translated a wealth of information will become available to us

At present, therefore, we are dependent on sources outside Kush. For example, the information for the lesson on Piye (Piankhy) is based on a primary source that is a stele inscription. This information is given both in the story and in the lesson guidelines (page 39).

#### Please note

Primary source, as a topic, is dealt with in the lesson *Historical Sources* in the first Unit *Prehistory/Early Humankind*. Thus, students understand the meaning of working with a primary source from the outset of the program. This topic is returned to, when appropriate, in other Units.



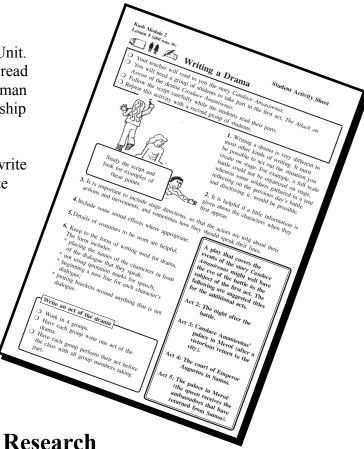


### **Dramas**

A drama is provided at the end of the Unit. The firt part is written for the students to read or perform. It deals with the period of Roman occupation along the Nile and the relationship between Kush and Rome.

Later, students are given guidelines to write their own drama and are asked to complete the given play by writing and presenting additional scenes.

> This sample sheet illustrates the way in which students are encouraged to write their own drama.



Students are encouraged to carry out individual and group research to extend their knowledge of a topic.

Some assignments provide a structure with detailed guidelines for carrying out research.

In other assignments students are given more freedom to carry out personal research.

> This freedom allows each student to work to the extent of their ability, aptitude and interest.

The Lesson Guidlines for this module provide a list of sources that can be used by students to research material for an assignment. The assignment requires them to take evidence from Meroitic society to present a case for describing Kush as a

major civilization.

R. B. African Kingdoms, New York, 1966

African Kingdoms, 1968

African Kingdoms, 19

of National Geographic Splendors of the Past, Weekington, 1, 1994

of Time-Life Books, Africa's Glorious Legacy, USA, 1994

of Time-Life Books, Africa's Converted to the Conver

1). Legyl and Numa, London, 1991 Onticles in Calliope: Ancient Nubia, Nov. De arcuses in Camppe: Ancient Number, Novy D.

arcuses in Camppe: Ancient Number, 1994,

or Time-Life Books, Africa's Glorious Legacy
or Time-Life Books, Africa's Glorious Lost, 1967

W.B., Lost Land Emergins, New York, 1969
W.B., The Kinashamir of Africa, Nam. York, 1969

The Kinashamir of Africa, Nam. York, 1969 N.B., Lost Land Emergins, New York, 1961

N.B., Lost Land Emergins, New York, 1969,

N.B., The Kingdoms of Africa, New York, 1969,

N.B., The Kingdoms of Africa, New York, 1969,

N.B., Lost Land Emergins, 1969,

N.B., Lost La

J.L. Nubia - Ancient Kingdoms C J.L. Nubia - Ancient Kingdoms C J.L. A Glorious Past, USA, 1995 D. Ancient Nubia, USA, 1993 n. D., Ancient Nubia, New York, 1996
P.L., Ancient Nubia, New York, 1996 K.L., Ancient Nubia, New York, 1967, P.L., Meroë, New York, 1967 e. K.L., Meroe, New York, 1961 J.D., Egypt and Nubia, London, 1991

#### Assessment

The program provides a variety of assessment tools with which teachers may evaluate their students' progress. A range of procedures is suggested in order to meet the need to monitor and assess the wide range of skills and concepts that are developed in the lessons; learning that goes beyond the simple recall of facts.

The core element of the monitoring procedure is the creation of an assessment portfolio for each student. Various components contribute to this portfolio.

#### 1. Targeted Assignments and Assessment Rubrics

In each module an assignment is targeted for monitoring and assessment purposes. A Teacher Guide for assessing the students' work in this targeted assignment is found after the lesson notes for each module.

Assessment may take different approaches depending upon the nature of the assignment and an assessment rubric is provided for each targeted assignment.

#### 2. Assessment Matrix

A matrix is supplied that can be used for each student. It is designed for recording the student's development in a variety of skills and can be used in conjunction with the *Monitoring and Assessment* pages found in each module.

#### 3. Review Exercises

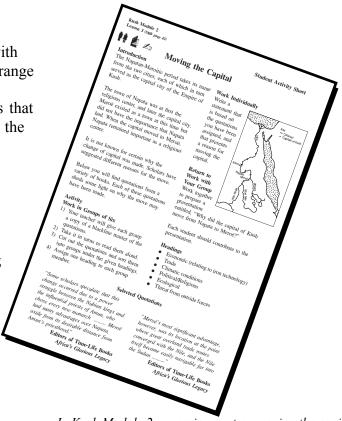
There are review exercises throughout the modules. They come in a variety of formats and many are included blackline masters so that each student may have a copy which to record answers.

The exercises are:

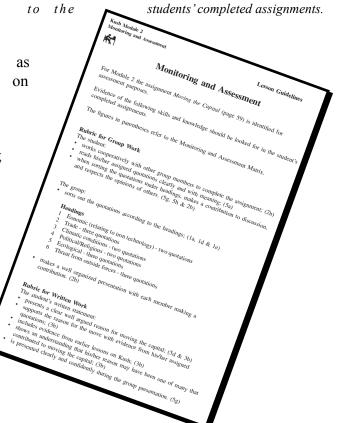
- a) a means of reviewing the topics studied;
- b) an enjoyable and interesting way of reviewing material;
- c) a contribution towards assessment.

#### 4. Guided Reading

The stories are accompanied by *Guided Reading*. The assignments in *Guided Reading* contain questions that not only require the recall of facts but also require students to relate concepts, to think critically and apply a variety of skills to the content of the lesson. Suggested answers to the questions are supplied in the teachers' *Lesson Guidelines* and the student's answers can be used for assessment in the student's portfolio.



In Kush Module 2, an assignment on moving the capital city from Napata to Meroe is targeted for assessment purposes. Students work with a selection of given quotations from a variety of texts in order to understand all the possible reasons for the decision to change location. Teachers are given an assessment rubric that they apply



# **Methodology**

# **Integrated Studies**

When teaching history/social studies, the picture we attempt to convey to students should be as complete as possible.

For example, a complete picture comes from studying the economics, geography, art, culture, science, mathematics and religion of that civilization.

To achieve a complete study we need to draw upon skills and knowledge from other disciplines and subject areas besides historysocial studies, and the Resource Packs are designed on this basis.

In this lesson students integrate language arts when they express what they have learned about Kush's religious center at Jebel Barkal in the form of poetry. They use simile and metaphor to create their poems.

# A Program for All Students

WideHorizon Education Resource Packs are already used extensively in schools in the USA, Australia and New Zealand.

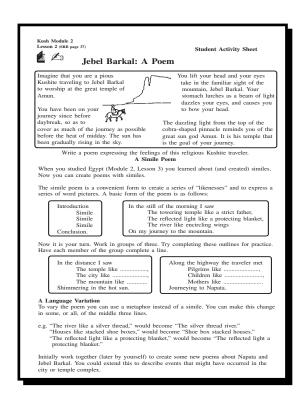
The wide variety of material offered in each Unit and the teaching methodology on which the program is based, has resulted in successful outcomes with students of a wide range of abilities.

The authors have designed a program that is accessible to all students. These include students who are challenged in their reading proficiency and in their grasp of concepts.

However, the program also challenges the more able students who need to be stretched in their learning.

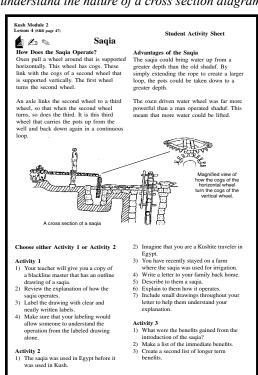
There are many features of the program that make it a satisfactory program for all students. These features include:

- 1) visual learning strategies;
- 2) storytelling;
- 3) structured assignments;
- 4) cooperative learning;
- 5) sequencing.



#### 1) Visual learning strategies

Students with limited English and those who might find the text challenging can be helped through visual learning strategies. Simple illustrations such as those below provide access to understanding the development of water retrieval in the Nile societies. The illustration also provides the opportunity to understand the nature of a cross section diagram.



#### 2) Storytelling

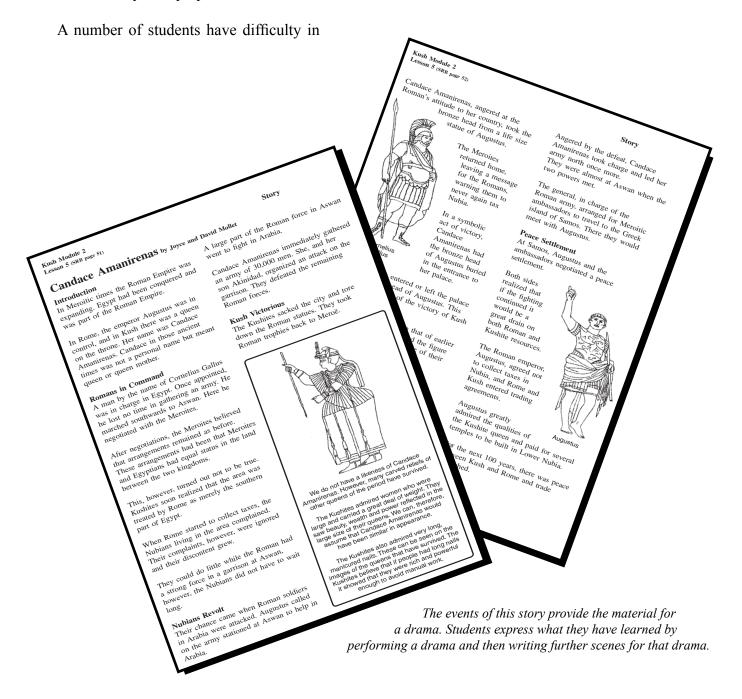
One of the characteristics of the program is the importance placed on storytelling.

Presentation of new material through stories allows students to hear unfamiliar words in context.

It gives them knowledge of the vocabularly, syntax and story content before embarking on independent reading. Reading independently is made easier by this preparation.

decoding. Listening to a story gives these students opportunities to concentrate on absorbing new information, applying their imagination to the subject, and interacting with the text unhindered by the task of decoding.

Storytelling also enables teachers to use their voice, gestures and facial expressions to help their students understand meaning, and also to maintain interest and involvment.



#### 3) Structured Assignments

The way in which assignments are presented to students enables them to complete the tasks with the minimum of teacher involvement.

Every assignment is broken down into smaller subtasks and explained, step by step.

The student is not simply asked to complete a task but guided through the stages to the completion of that task.

Often, a sample answer is provided so that students have a model for their own work.

#### 4) Cooperative Learning

Many of the assignments involve a degree of cooperative learning.

Pairs or groups of students share a task so that each can bring to the assignment their particular strength.

It also provides them with support in developing their weaker skills.

The organization of these assignments is structured so that students are clear about their roles and their responsibilities within the group, and the expected outcomes.

This Guided
Reading illustrates
the sequence of
tasks. The first
questions are concerned
with the literal recall of the
text. Gradually the tasks become more
challenging and the later ones require students
to apply their critical thinking skills and then to carry out

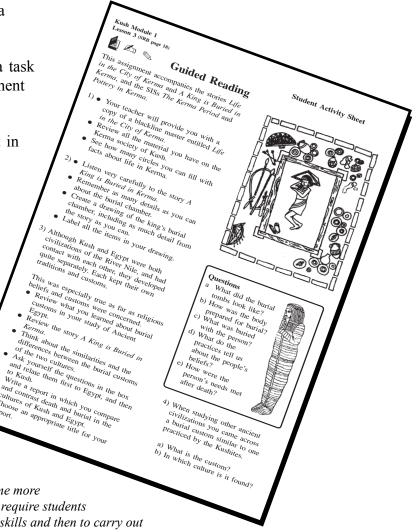
research and go beyond the text.

#### 5) Sequencing

The sequencing of tasks within the assignments benefits all students. In particular, the Guided Reading begins with less demanding tasks, usually requiring literal recall of the text. It then builds upon this, making each consecutive task a little more demanding.

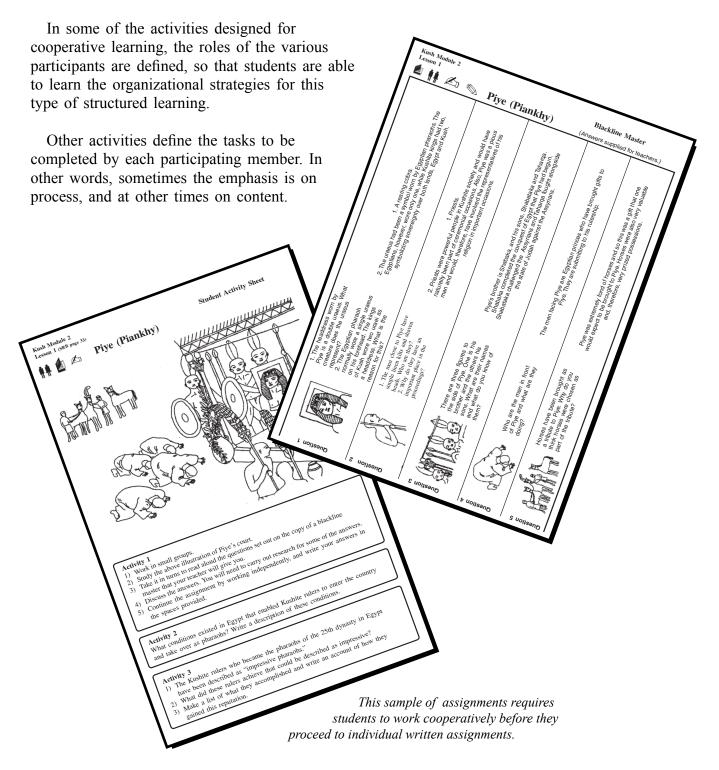
The final task requires students to employ higher order reading skills and calls upon their critical thinking skills.

On occasions, students are asked to go beyond the text and are guided to further research in order to extend their knowledge and understanding.



# **Cooperative Learning**

Where appropriate, activities are organized to be completed in pairs or in small groups. In this way the students can benefit from the advantages of working cooperatively. The advantages of learning in this way are many, but perhaps the main one is the opportunity to develop the skills of social participation.



# Linking the Units

Linking the Unit Kush with the other Units in the Program.

Throughout the program students are given the opportunity to compare and contrast the different ancient civilizations.

They are encouraged to recognize crosscultural ideas, traditions, skills and patterns of behavior, and from working with particular themes they build links between the different cultures; examples follow.

#### **Comparing Rulers**

The decisions, and relationships with the priesthood, of two rulers, Arkamani in Kush and Akhenaten in Egypt, are compared in *Kush* Module 2 Lesson 4 (see below).

#### Mesopotamia and Egypt

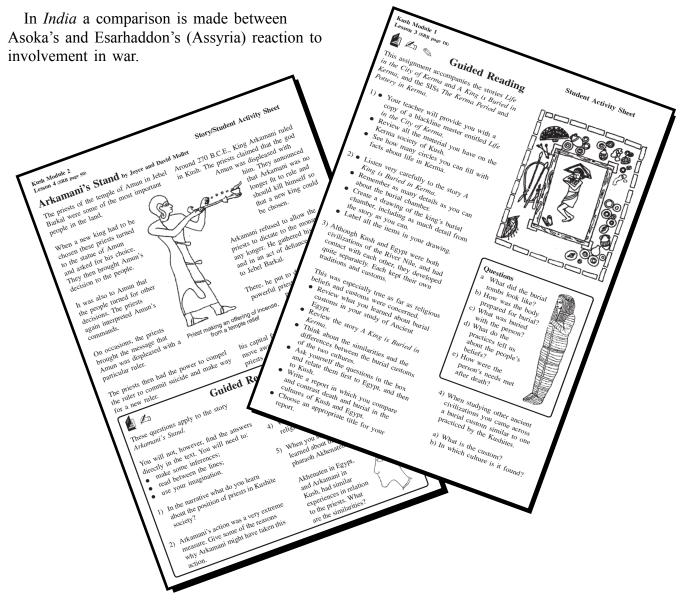
The script and writing materials of Mesopotamia and Egypt are compared in *Egypt* Module 3 Lesson 3.

#### **Burial Practices**

The theme of burial practices is one that is developed throughout the Units.

In *Kush* the burial practices of Kush and Mesopotamia, and Kush and Egypt are compared (see below).

In *China* students compare the terracotta soldiers of a Qin Dynasty tomb with the carved Nubian soldiers of an Egyptian New Kingdom tomb.



	Comparisons of		the Content Standards of the Ancient Civilization of Kush	Ancient Civilization	on of Kush	
Content Standard	Houghton Mifflin Text A Message of Ancient Days Boston 1999	Harcourt Brace Text Ancient Civilization USA 2000	McGraw Hill Text WER Text Adventures in Time & Place San Diego 1999 San Diego 1999	WER Text Ancient Civilization, Kush San Diego 1999	WER Language Arts Ancient Civilization, Kush San Diego 1999	WER Rubrics Ancient Civilization, Kush San Diego 1999
Understanding the period when three cultures held power along the Nile (c.1663 - 1570 B.C.E.).  The Kushites ruled the upper Nile, The Hyksos ruled the lower Nile, and an Egyptian family, based at Thebes, ruled between the two.	This period of Kush's history is not covered.	Chapter 4, Lesson 1, pp. 167-170. Factual information - no narrative/story, no language arts component.	Chapter 6, Lesson 3, pp.146-148. Factual information - no narrative/story, no language arts component.	Module 1, Lesson 4, pp. 3-4 and 28-33. Synopsis of this period of Kush's history. Factual information taught through information sheets, narrative/story based on factual events, selection of assignments.	Module 1, Lesson 4, pp.32-33. Assignments to develop literal recall, point of view, and forecasting different outcomes. Students develop these far more easily when using narrative as their starting point.	Module 1, Lesson 4, p.5. Rubrics provided to assess the three given assignments. Extremely useful for those using portfolio assessment.
Understanding the Kushite decision to move the capital city further south from Napata, to Meroë.  (c. 300 B.C.E.)	Chapter 7, Lesson 4, pp. 211 - 213. The change of location is recorded but students not required to speculate on the reasons for the move, nor given sufficient information to do this.	Chapter 4, Lesson 2, pp. 176-177. The new location for the capital city dealt with briefly.	Chapter 7, Lesson 2, pp.177-179. The new location for the capital city dealt with briefly.	Lesson 3, pp. 41 and 59 - 62. Students work towards understanding the move of capital using a variety of quotations from a large number of authors (provided); authors selected to represent the many theories that have been suggested by scholars in the field.	Module 2, Lesson 3, p. 59. Guided reading of a variety of resource material. Guidance given for assessing the material, organizing the information and working towards a conclusion.	Module 2, Lesson 3, p. 43. Assessment rubrics provided for the group assignment and each student's written assignments. These monitor various skills, including oral presentation and the competent presentation of an argument.

#### Keiller Middle School 7270 Lisbon San Diego, CA 92114

1 April 1998

To Whom It May Concern

In the Summer of 1997 I attended a workshop run by Joyce and David Mollet of Wide-horizon Education Resources. The workshop was about the teaching of the Ancient Civilizations to middle school students. As a teacher of predominantly African-American students I was interested in finding material which they could relate to. I was delighted to find exactly the right material I was looking for. Not only did I find material that would relate to the mindset of students but I also found extensive coverage of the ancient African civilization of Kush.

The material is not only a history/social studies program but also a language arts program as well. A great deal of information is transmitted through stories and dramas as well as information sheets. The vast majority of stories are accompanied by Guided Reading assignments.

Joyce and David have devised a program whereby it is very easy to teach basic skills to the students even though they learn them in a very enjoyable way. The Guided Reading Activity Sheets contain a variety of assignments gently guiding the student from simple literal memory recall to complex comprehension tasks. My students responded very positively to these assignments with a corresponding improvement in their literacy skills.

Most of all I was delighted to find extensive coverage of the ancient African civilization of Kush. I believe, just as coauthors Joyce and David Mollet do, that all students, but particularly those of African heritage, should study Africa's oldest interior civilization. Despite considerable research on my part I had failed to find the content I wanted on Kush. I was, therefore, delighted to find their teaching pack on Kush. In this respect the material is unique and I would recommend every middle grade teacher should teach Kush to their students. We shall certainly be availing ourselves of the free workshop on Kush in which teachers are shown on how to best use the teaching pack and also how to meet performance standards and teach basic skills.

Thank you Joyce and David for providing us with material whereby students find learning enjoyable, where basic history and literacy skills are developed, and where African-American students can relate to part of their heritage, a major ancient civilization. I haven't doubt that in the years to come the teaching pack on Kush (and even perhaps the whole series) will become standard works for teachers wanting students to learn about their heritage.

Sincerely,

Vince Riveroll, Grade 6 Teacher/Site Teacher of the Year