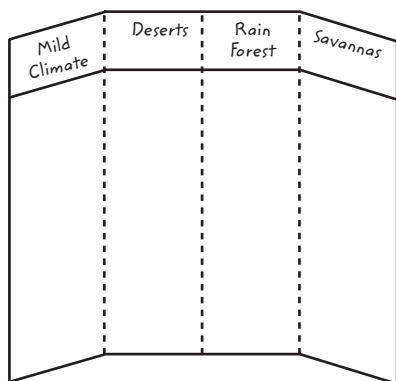


# Early African Civilizations, 2000 B.C.–A.D. 1500

## TOPIC SUMMARY

Climate zones on the African continent influenced the development and survival of civilizations. Early civilizations grew as the people mastered agricultural techniques. The expansion of trade led to the development of several important kingdoms. Few African societies had a written language. Our knowledge of them comes from records of visitors or from archaeological evidence. African religions varied from the monotheistic to the polytheistic. As in many early civilizations, most art forms, including sculpture, dance, and music, served a religious purpose.

### Explaining

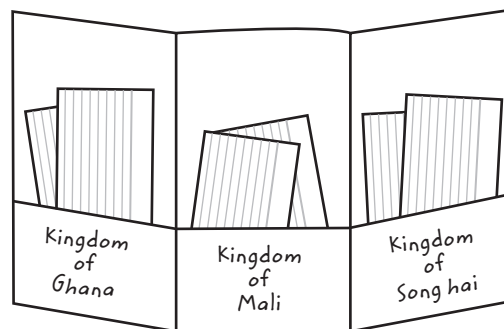


#### **↑** Folded Chart

Students should explain how the four climate zones affected the development of civilizations in Africa by organizing the information into a Folded Chart.

**Materials Needed:** one sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper

### Comparing and Contrasting

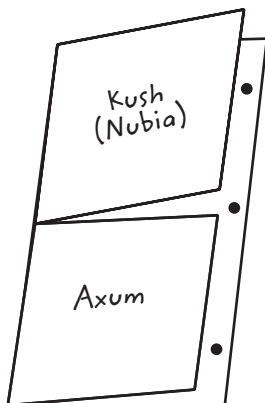


#### **↑** Three-Pocket Book

Have students make a Three-Pocket Book. Then have them record notes about people, places, and events of the kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai on individual note cards. Students should organize the notes in the appropriate pocket.

**Materials Needed:** one sheet of 11" x 17" paper, scissors, and glue

### Identifying



#### **↻** Two-Tab Book

Have students create a Two-Tab Book to identify facts about the location, culture, and economy of Kush (Nubia) from about 2000 B.C. to A.D. 150 and Axum from about A.D. 150–700. Have students work in pairs to quiz each other about the facts identified. Encourage students to add facts as they are working together.

**Materials Needed:** one sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper and scissors