

In this unit, students will be introduced to the continent of Asia and its two most populous countries.

### What's the story?

Students will learn about the early civilizations in **India** and **China** and how they were both able to form because of **mighty rivers**.

### What will my student learn?

Students will explore the impact that **farming**, the **establishment of cities** and **government**, **religion**, and **writing** had on the development of civilizations in India and China.

Throughout this domain, students will explore **informational writing**. They will **identify** important information from their daily Read-Alouds to **improve writing skills**. They will also focus on using the **writing process** in their independent writing as well as in small-group work with their classmates.

### Conversation starters

Ask your student questions about the unit to promote discussion and continued learning:

1. What are some of the different components of civilizations you have learned about?
2. How did rivers help with the formation of civilizations in these regions?  
**Follow up:** If you have access to a map of Asia, ask your student to show you where India and Asia are. Ask them to show you the rivers they have been learning about.
3. You learned about the word *unjust*. What does *unjust* mean? (not right or unfair)  
**Follow up:** Can you use that word in a sentence? What does the prefix *un-* mean? (not) So, what does *unhappy* (or unharmed or unbelievable) mean?
4. Tell me what you learned about the Chinese writing system and how the people of ancient China contributed to writing.
5. What do people celebrate and hope for during Chinese New Year's celebrations?  
**Follow up:** What are some of the symbols of good luck that are displayed?