



Teacher's Guide

The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus & The Temple of Artemis at Ephesus **14 Wonders of Our World Series**

Grade Levels:

6-12

Subject Areas:

Social Studies

World History

World Geography & Cultures

Synopsis:

With an emphasis on architectural details that have lasted throughout time, this program's first section tells the story of Mausolus and his commission for an ornate, Greek-style tomb to be built 14 stories high. After his death, his sister-wife, Artemisia, supervises the tomb's completion and gains notoriety as a successful military leader and queen. An earthquake finally destroys the tomb in the 15th century and its ornate statuary is sent to a limekiln to be made into cement. The second section explains where and why the Temple of Artemis was built with a focus on engineering technologies that the architect, Chersiphron, modified to move huge blocks of marble and to install marble lintels on the top of 40 foot columns.

Learning Objectives: Students will:

- Appreciate the cultural significance of these Wonders of the World.
- Describe ancient technologies used to build the Mausoleum and the Temple of Artemis.
- Briefly describe the achievements of Queen Artemisia.
- Describe the influence of architectural motifs first used in these two buildings.

Vocabulary:

mausoleum, monumental, Satrap, dynasty, tyrannical, poised, dovetail joints, dowels, courses of stone, interred, formidable, unprecedented, invincible, Renaissance, lime kilns, commission, ingenious, lintels, cantilever, fluted, sarcophagus, pyromaniac, infamy

Pre-Viewing Discussion:

Why were temples so important to ancient societies? Why would the greatest architects and engineers of their time be commissioned to build temples?

What architectural details were common in the time of the ancient Greeks and Persians?

What is a mausoleum? Are mausoleums still being built today? Why would mausoleums be particularly important to ancient societies?

Why would rulers of the ancient world want to build impressive mausoleums? How do you think these mausoleums would be decorated?

Post-Viewing Discussion:

Why did King Mausolus commission his tomb to be built in the style of Greek architecture? How did he assure the success of his building plans? Why did Queen Artemisia continue the construction of the mausoleum after her husband's death?

What were the unique features of the Mausoleum? How has its design influenced other architects? What details in particular have been echoed throughout history?

Why do you think that Artemis was such an important goddess? What did statues of Artemis suggest? Why did people of the day believe that the temple was burnt to the ground?

When building the temple, how did the architect solve problems working with huge blocks of solid marble? What architectural details are particularly difficult to construct when heavy building materials are used? How did he solve these problems?

Further Activities:

Investigate the life of Queen Artemisia to determine how she became such a powerful leader. Try to determine why architects, engineers and military leaders bent to her will.

Find a detailed plan or drawing of the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus or the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus.

Find further details about the life of Chersiphron and the problems he encountered while building the Temple.

Find out more about the Greek goddess Artemis. Was she always portrayed as she was at her temple at Ephesus? Find out more about why some Greek gods may have had more than one appearance or characteristic.

Further investigate the historical period in which these two wonders were built. In particular find out how the cities involved defended themselves against potential invaders or acted as aggressors themselves.

Related New Dimension Media Titles:

Great Civilizations of the Ancient World series
Technology & Architecture in Ancient Civilizations series
Beyond Our Borders series
History Happened Here series
Christianity in World History series
Cultural Legacies of Ancient Civilizations series