

Historical Timeline Figures

The Ultimate Hands-on History Activity for All Ages

Table of Contents

INSTRUCTIONS	5
PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS	8
GAME INSTRUCTIONS	9
SCORE CARD	10
REPRODUCIBLE NOTEBOOK TIMELINE	11
TIMELINE FIGURES WITH BORDERS	
AFRICA	12
ASIA	13
THE AMERICAS	15
EUROPE	20
MIDDLE EAST	27
GENERIC FIGURES	28
TIMELINE FIGURES WITHOUT BORDERS	
AFRICA	29
ASIA	30
THE AMERICAS	32
EUROPE	37
MIDDLE EAST	44
SAMPLE TIMELINE PAGE	45
WHO AM I? GAME CARDS	46
CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF DATES	66
INDEX	69
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	71

Instructions

Remarkable Benefits of Timelines

There are many benefits to using timelines. When you establish a regular use of them as a priority, you'll experience these and more:

- Terrific fun, while educational.
- Increases understanding of history.
- Improves historical perspective like no other teaching tool.
- Increases excitement at seeing a wonderful visual representation of history.
- Helps students see the "big picture" of how one historical event leads to another.
- Improves critical thinking skills by drawing conclusions from connecting chronological events.
- Benefits a variety of learning styles when using timelines with timeline figures.
- Awakens the brain's memory capacity through visual reminders and hands-on action.

Student Generated Timelines

Using the Notebook Timeline template and these figures, your students will create their own timeline that can be used for as many years as they are in school. It begins essentially blank, and students add information to the timeline as they learn. Topics may include history, science, literature, fine arts, and more. As a subject is studied, add new information to the timeline by:

- Writing in words or short phrases.
- Drawing or pasting in pictures.
- Adding ready-made figures such as those included in this book.

The more frequently the timeline is used, the greater the learning value. It's gratifying to see the timeline develop throughout the year(s)!

Using the Timeline

There are at least four types of student-generated timelines. Each type has its benefits and its limitations. Select and adapt the style(s) that best suits your teaching needs. Regardless of which you choose, the method of placing information on the timeline is the same. Record information as it is learned and add other dates of interest or importance as reference points. Check the index for the time period you are studying and cut out the important figures/events for that era. Students then apply these to the timeline as appropriate. Artistic kids may also enjoy drawing and designing their own figures.

Four Types of Timelines

Take these ideas and see what works best for your students. You may do one style or a combination of two types. A poster timeline is good to use as a group project while each individual student keeps their own personal record organized with one of the other three types.

- **CARD FILE:** Record important events on file cards and file them in a file box in chronological order. (There is no need to "save" room for future studies since cards can be placed before or after any card in the box.) Color-code the cards. Although this method is more difficult for younger children or for those who need to "see" the chronology in a linear fashion, it works well for those who like strict organization and have space limitations.

- **LINEAR:** Another popular style makes use of a timeline in strips that stretch across the room (down the hall, up the stairs....). This is wonderful for those who need to see historical events in a linear fashion and can be a fun classroom or family project. Stretch timeline strips zig-zag down one wall to show the flow of history. If you have limited wall space, this is not the best method for you!

- **POSTER:** If "seeing" historic events depicted chronologically is important, but space is at a premium, there's a terrific poster style activity timeline available from Geography Matters, Inc. The figures in this book were designed to fit easily within the spaces of their Mark-It Timeline of History. The laminated version can also be cut into strips and stretched across the wall, if you choose. Write on the laminate with Vis-a-Vis overhead projector pens. Photograph it at the end of your study and then wipe it off to begin again, or leave the labeling on the timeline and add to it each year.

- **NOTEBOOK** Another popular style of student-generated timeline is the notebook format. Each page turned is another view into history. This type is easy to use, can be carried anywhere, and provides an opportunity for the student to record events in more detail. It's exciting to see a student drawing conclusions after seeing events depicted on his personal timeline. (See the cover for an example.) Copy the reproducible notebook timeline on page 10, make 30 or more double-sided copies, three hole punch and place in a three-ring binder. Each page can represent 10, 20, 25, 50 years or however many you'd like. Some pages may represent more and some less. It's easy to add pages in between as new information is learned throughout the year(s). The drawback: students can only "see" one section of history at a time.

Using These Fantastic Figures

These detailed figures add great variety to any timeline. Of course, no set of timeline figures includes pictures of EVERY historical event. That would be impossible! Check the alphabetical index or chronological listing to see if the subject you are studying is represented by a figure. If not, allow students the opportunity to create their own figures. They will probably remember the event even better, having designed the figure themselves.











Print each page and cover with contact paper, lamination or clear packing tape (the "poor man's lamination") to add durability. Place pages into a file in page number order along with the index to make finding the figures easier. File "Who Am I?" card sheets and score sheet in a separate file, or leave bound in the book until ready to use. Now, when the opportunity arises to use the figures select the ones that fit your study, cut them out and attach to your timeline.

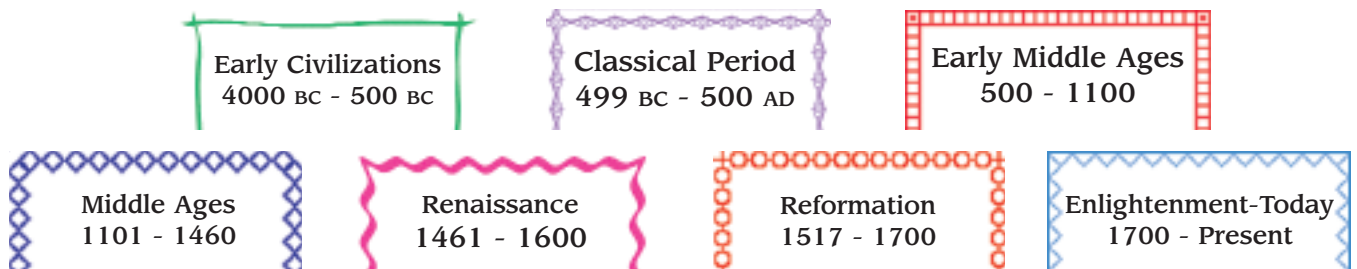
Attach the figures permanently or temporarily. Our favorite way is to use removable glue sticks. Place the glue on the back of the figure and press the figure onto the map or timeline where needed. This glue allows for moving and removing the figure as needed. (It works like the popular Post-It™ notes.) You can also use a one inch strip of tape rolled sticky side out.

Occasionally, break away from your general timeline and make a detailed timeline to examine events up close. For example, while involved in a study of the Civil War, make a timeline of the individual battles. Then have the student choose a figure or two to represent the Civil War when you go back to the general timeline.

Timeline figures really spice up a map! Stick Caesar Augustus in Rome or add the Magna Carta to England! Or place the figure along the border or in the ocean and attach a string or draw a line from it to the place of importance.

Terrific Features

The Sciences		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This well-rounded choice of historical events has unique features to enhance memory retention. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> √ Border design depicts one of seven historical eras. √ Icon in the lower left corner indicates one of 10 topics. √ Icon color represents geographic area of the world. <p> Blue = Europe Green = Americas Yellow = Africa Pink = Asia Tan = Middle East </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a glance students can note the where, what, and when of history! 		Exploration & Discovery
Religion				The Arts
Governments & Treaties				Rulers & Leaders
Structures & Landmarks				Wars & Battles
Inventions				People



These figures are also available without borders. If you would rather not have borders defining the shape of each figure select this style from the Table of Contents or Bookmark. You will lose the added feature of time period coding to lose the blocky look of the figures.

Make-Your-Own and Generic Figures

Encourage students to create their own unique figures. Student can draw pictures, use computer graphics, cut pictures from magazines, or copy pictures from books. Color code and duplicate the icons and border designs and voila - customized figures! There are a few generic figures in this set that students can use as a starting point.