Black Genesis

African Origins Knowledge and the Evidence of Nabta Playa

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Date _____

Grade 6 interdisciplinary Research Simulation Task

Essential Question

How can archaeological and geographic evidence help us evaluate claims about African knowledge before the Naswt Biti?

NJSLS Social Studies

6.2.8.HistorySE.1.a examines archaeological evidence about life before written records. 6.2.8.HistoryCC.1.b examines technological change. 6.2.8.GeoHE.2.a connects geography with early river valley settlement and sustainability.

NJSLS English Language Arts

RI.CR.6.1 cites evidence. RI.CI.6.2 identifies central ideas. RI.AA.6.7 evaluates claims. RI.MF.6.6 integrates formats. W.AW.6.1 develops arguments.

CCLS Literacy Connections

RH.6–8.1 cites evidence. RH.6–8.2 determines central ideas. RH.6–8.7 integrates visual information. WHST.6–8.1 writes arguments.

Interdisciplinary and Amistad Alignment

Geography examines place and adaptation. Mathematics applies ratios and percentages through 6.RP.A.3. Science literacy tests explanations against observations. Amistad connections recognize African agency and achievement beyond narratives limited to enslavement. Readings are original classroom syntheses, not quotations from the book.

Day 1 Reading an Argument about Africa

Do Now

What evidence could show that people developed knowledge before written records?

Source A Black Genesis and Ancient Kemetic Names

Robert Bauval and Thomas Brophy published Black Genesis in 2011. They argue that prehistoric Black African communities in the Sahara helped lay foundations for Kemet, the indigenous name used in this packet. Their interpretation highlights astronomy, stone monuments, and cattle keeping. [1] The later name Egypt comes through Greek Aigyptos. [12]

A thesis is a main argument. Evidence includes surviving objects, structures, and recorded contexts. Interpretation explains what they might mean. Use ancient Kemetic names first. Names distinguish a sacred landscape from an individual monument. Heru em Akhet (Heru on the Horizon) is a later divine name associated with the Great Sphinx, not its securely known original construction name. [8, 9, 10]

Ancient Kemetic Names	Place or landmark
Rosetau or Rostau	Sacred necropolis associated with Giza
Akhet Khufu	Great Pyramid • Horizon of Khufu
Wer Khafre	Second pyramid • Khafre is Great
Netjer er Menkaure	Third pyramid • Menkaure is Divine
Heru em Akhet • Heru on the Horizon	Great Sphinx in later worship

Quick Write

Explain the authors' claim. Then distinguish Rosetau from Akhet Khufu.

Demonstration of Learning

Identify one claim and one kind of archaeological evidence.
