Geography and Early India

Sixth Grade Social Studies
Harappan Civilization

• Grew up in the Indus River Valley.
• As surplus of food increased, towns increased as well. Why?
India’s First Civilization

- Harappan civilization was between 2300 and 1700 BC.
- Two cities were the Harappa and Mohenjo Daro.
- Each had a towering fortress. Why?
- Both cities had public wells.
Harappan Achievements

• Had bathrooms with indoor plumbing.
• Artisans made pottery, jewelry, ivory objects, and cotton clothing.
• Developed a system of weights and measurements.
• Developed India’s first writing system.
• No one is sure why the Harappan civilization ended.
Aryan Migration

• Dominate group in India after the Harappan.
• Arrived in India in the 2000s BC.
• Much of what we know about Aryan comes from the Vedas (religious writings).
Government and Religion

• Did not build big cities like the Harappan civilization.
• Lived in small communities, mostly of family.
• Each group had their own leader.
• Rajas led the villages.
Language

• Sanskrit- most important language of ancient India.
• Not spoken now but is the root of most modern South Asian languages.