



Maggie's Activity Pack

Name _____

Date _____

A Trip to Ephesus in Turkey

Maggie is in Turkey. She is visiting the ruins of Ephesus. She is surprised that this library was built in 135 AD. She makes some notes in her journal. Read what Maggie wrote. Think about this library and your library. What is alike? What is different?

Celsus Library, Ephesus

Today I visited the Celsus Library in Ephesus. I could see it was a place for learning. There were four statues that told me. They stood for wisdom, knowledge, intelligence, and virtue. This library was built over the grave of a governor. It was a monument to him. He must have really liked reading!

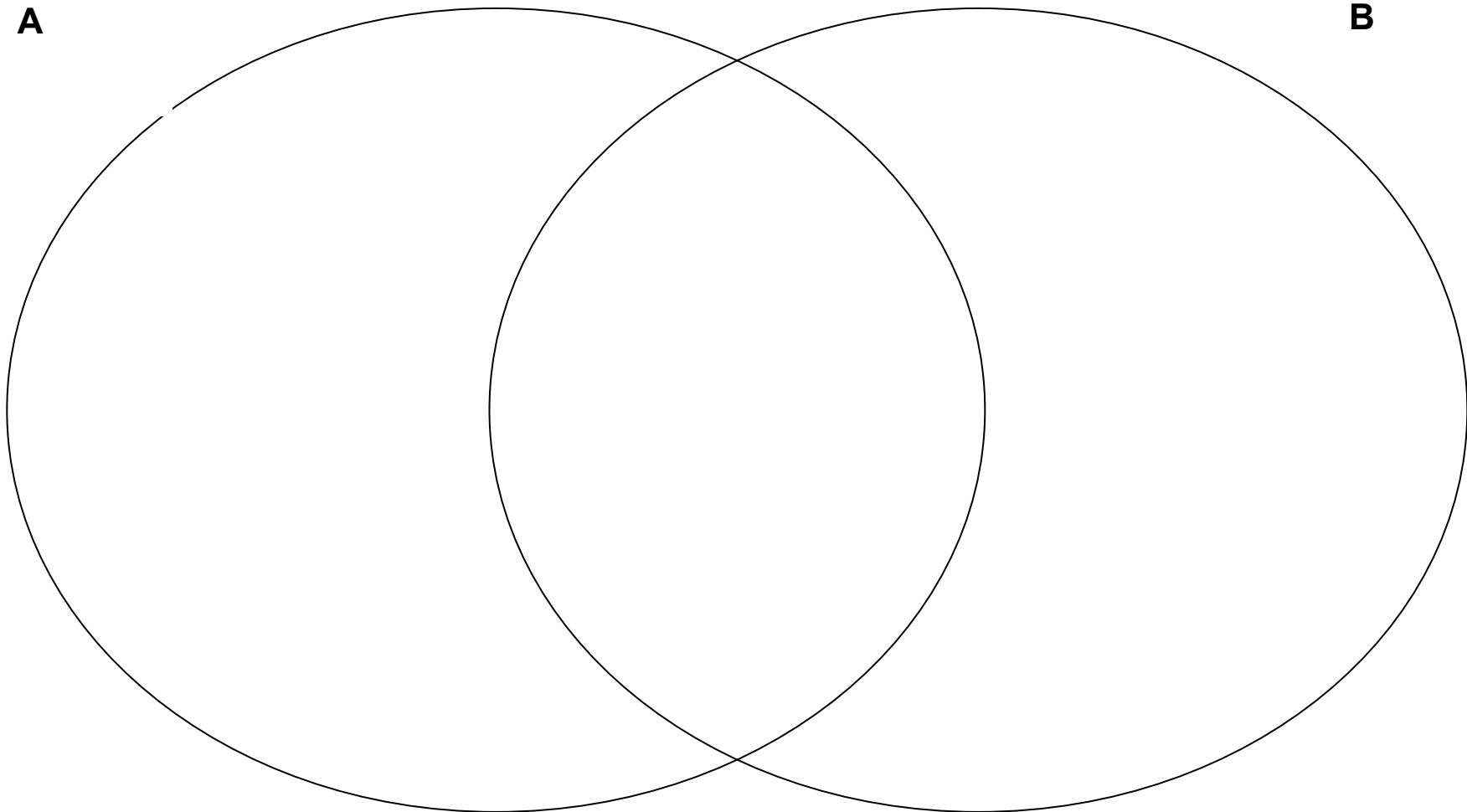
This was one of the biggest libraries during that time. It had several reading areas with many windows. This gave readers lots of light. Back then people wrote on and read from scrolls. There were almost 12,000 scrolls in this library. The tour guide said the double walls protected the scrolls from the high heat. I can't imagine working in this old building. Where would I plug in my laptop?



The Celsus Library at Ephesus

Photo courtesy of Mason Bryant Howard.

Write about the library at Ephesus in Circle A. Write about your library in Circle B. For example you can put scrolls in Circle A and books in circle B. Anything that you find in both libraries you put in the middle.



Dear Colleague,

Our Producer, Mason Howard, and her family visited Turkey this summer. They had a wonderful trip, and we wanted to share a glimpse of their trip with you. She has three children ages 11, 11 and 13, and they enjoyed the trip and learned so much! It's great to have the opportunity to bring history alive. We here at Maggie's Earth Adventures hope that our Social Studies strand helps to bring some of that history alive for your students. Mason was very taken by the ruins at Ephesus; hence the Weekly Activity Packet "A Trip to Ephesus in Turkey" was born.

As Mason and I brainstormed this activity together so many topics came to mind. We hope you will take this opportunity to discuss how libraries have changed over the centuries. The library at Ephesus has statues telling the visitor they are entering a building of knowledge. What key visuals, quotations or art might tell your students something about their library? Have the students design the entrance of a library. What elements would they include to convey the idea that a library is a home for learning and exploration?

Use this discussion to talk about primary sources vs. websites. Have a conversation about Wikipedia. Many schools and universities have come out with policies regarding the use of Wikipedia when researching. Are your students Wiki savvy? Do you encourage or discourage the use of this resource? Have your children look at some primary sources. Next, have them visit some websites you have marked on the subject. Compare and contrast how the information is presented and how you might use it in a research paper. And while we're on the topic of research, what is the proper way to cite your research? The APA has come up with a standard for citing websites in research. Here's one I used in recent research:

Blankinship, D.G. (2006, December 18). Gates, Hewlett foundations give \$60 million to third world education. Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Retrieved June 20, 2007, from http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/296264_gates18.html

Happy teaching!
Kathy and Mason!

Answer Key:

Answers will vary but a few ideas include electricity, technology, windows, research materials, shelves, etc. See if your class can share and even have a bit of a contest with another class to see who has the most terms in the circles. Perhaps a trip to the library with notebooks will help spark ideas!

Goals:

Students will read a short "journal article" about Maggie's trip to the Celsus Library at Ephesus. Prompts are provided for students to compare and contrast libraries of long ago with libraries of today. A Venn Diagram is provided to help students organize ideas. This activity is available on the primary and intermediate levels and correlates with the National Social Studies Standards: Culture and People, Places and Environment.