THE SPREAD OF AGRICULTURAL, DOMESTICATED ANIMALS AND DISEASE

Source: Jared Diamond, Guns, Germs, and Steel. New York: Norton.

Where Agriculture Began (p. 126)		
Location	Crops	
Fertile Crescent	wheat, barley, pea, lentil, olive, chickpea, flax, muskmelon	
China	millet, rice, soybean, hemp	
Mesoamerica	corn, beans, cotton, yucca, squash, jicama	
Andes/Amazon	corn, lima, peanut, cotton, manioc, sweet potato, potato, squash	
West Africa/Sahel	sorghum, millet, rice, cowpea, groundnut, cotton, yam, watermelon, gourd, oil palm	
India	beans, cotton, flax, cucumber	
Ethiopa	teff, millet, coffee	
Eastern U.S.	grasses, artichoke, squash, sunflower	
New Guinea	sugar cane, yams, taro, banana	

- 1. Which region makes the greatest contribution to agriculture?
- 2. In your opinions, why does agriculture develop independently in so many areas of the globe?

Spread of Fertile Crescent Crops (p. 181)		
Era	Location	
before 7000 BC	Fertile Crescent	
7000 - 6000 BC	Asia Minor, Egypt, Crete,	
	Greece, Caspian Sea, Persia	
6000 - 5000 BC	Central Europe, Iberian and	
	Italian Peninsulas	
5000 - 2500 BC	Northern and Western Europe	

- 1. How long does it take for agriculture to travel from the Fertile Crescent to Western Europe?
- 2. In your opinion, how did agriculture spread?

Distribution of Large Grass Species (p. 140)		
Location	number	
West Asia, Europe, North Africa	33	
East Asia	6	
Sub-Sahara Africa	4	
Americas	11	
Australia	2	

- 1. Which region of the globe had the most large grass species?
- 2. Why are large grass species important to the development of agriculture?

Mammal Candidates for Domestication (p. 162)				
	Eurasia	Africa	America	Australia
Animals	72	51	24	1
Domesticated	13	0	1	0
%	18%	0%	4%	0%
Domesticated				

- 1. Which region of the globe had the most potential mammals for domestication?
- 2. Which region of the globe had the greatest success with domesticating mammals?
- 3. Why is the domestication of animals considered a major achievement in human history?

Origin of Large Domestic Animals (p. 167)		
Species	Dates	Locations
Dog	10,000 BC	SW Asia, China,
		North America
Sheep	8,000 BC	SW Asia
Goat	8,000 BC	SW Asia
Pig	8,000 BC	SW Asia, China
Cow	6,000 BC	SW Asia, India, North
		Africa
Horse	4,000 BC	Ukraine
Donkey	4,000 BC	Egypt
Water	4,000 BC	China
Buffalo		
Llama	3,500 BC	Andes
Camel	2,500 BC	Central Asia, Arabia

- 1. Which animals were domesticated in Southwest Asia?
- 2. What is the value of each of these animals?
- 3. In your opinion, why were dogs and cows domesticated in more than one area?

Deadly Gifts from Our Animal Friends (p. 207)		
Human Diseases	Animals with Closely	
	Related Diseases	
Measles	Cattle (rinderpest)	
Tuberculosis	Cattle	
Small Pox	Cattle (cowpox)	
Flu	Pigs and Ducks	
Pertussis	Pigs and Dogs	
Falciparum Malaria	Chickens and Ducks	

- 1. Why was living in close proximity to domesticate animals a health hazard?
- 2. In your opinion, were there any advantages to being exposed to these animal diseases?