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## A Message from Mr. Gerlach...

As a class we are going to create our own "Digital Textbook Page" about the First Agricultural Revolution. Follow these directions to help you:

1. [Click this link to explore the links I've put together about The First Agricultural Revolution.](#)
2. **Add at least five interesting facts under the appropriate headings below**
3. **Work together and have fun!**

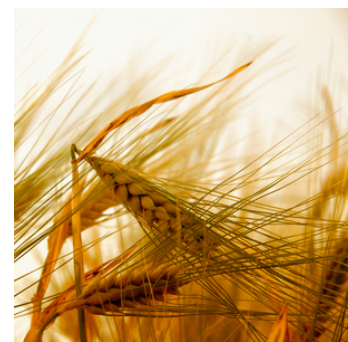
P.S. You may use the chat box to the right to share thoughts/work out problems as you add to this document. However, anyone that abuses this will be removed from this document and disciplined accordingly.

**ready go!**

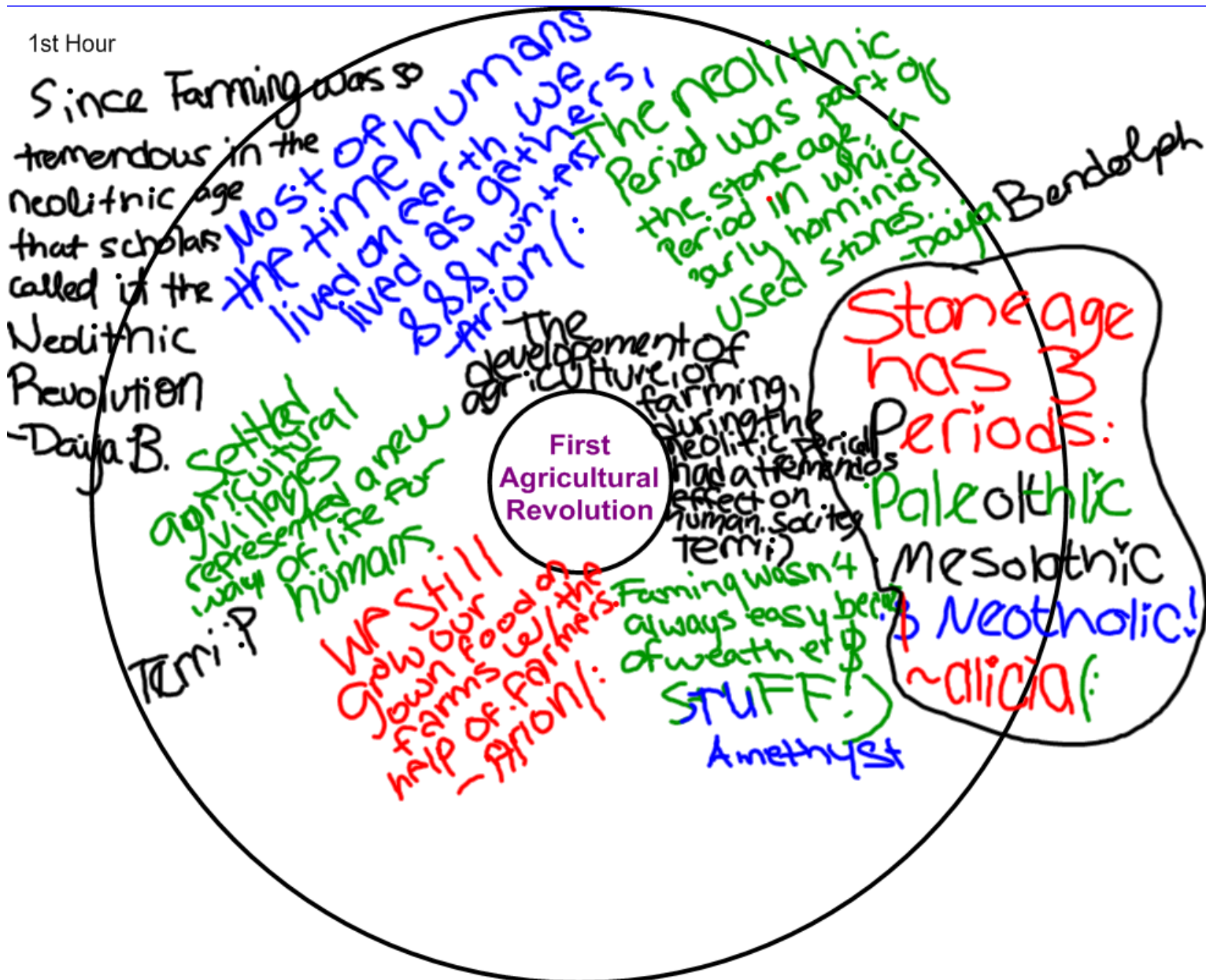
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## The Neolithic/First Agricultural Revolution

- [Neolithic](#) is another term for the first agricultural [revolution](#).
- For most of are time on Earth we lived as [hunters and gathers](#).
- Agricultural revolution happened when they got tired of the gathering stuff.
- The Neolithic [era](#) was part of the stone age.
- The Neolithic era was the [transition](#) from hunting and gathering and settlement.
- Neolithic era means NEW STONE.
- Settled [agricultural](#) villages represented a new way of life for humans.
- The [Neolithic Revolution](#) was a fundamental change in the way people lived
- Took place over thousands of years
- The development of [agriculture](#), or farming, during the Neolithic period had a big effect on how we live today.



1st Hour



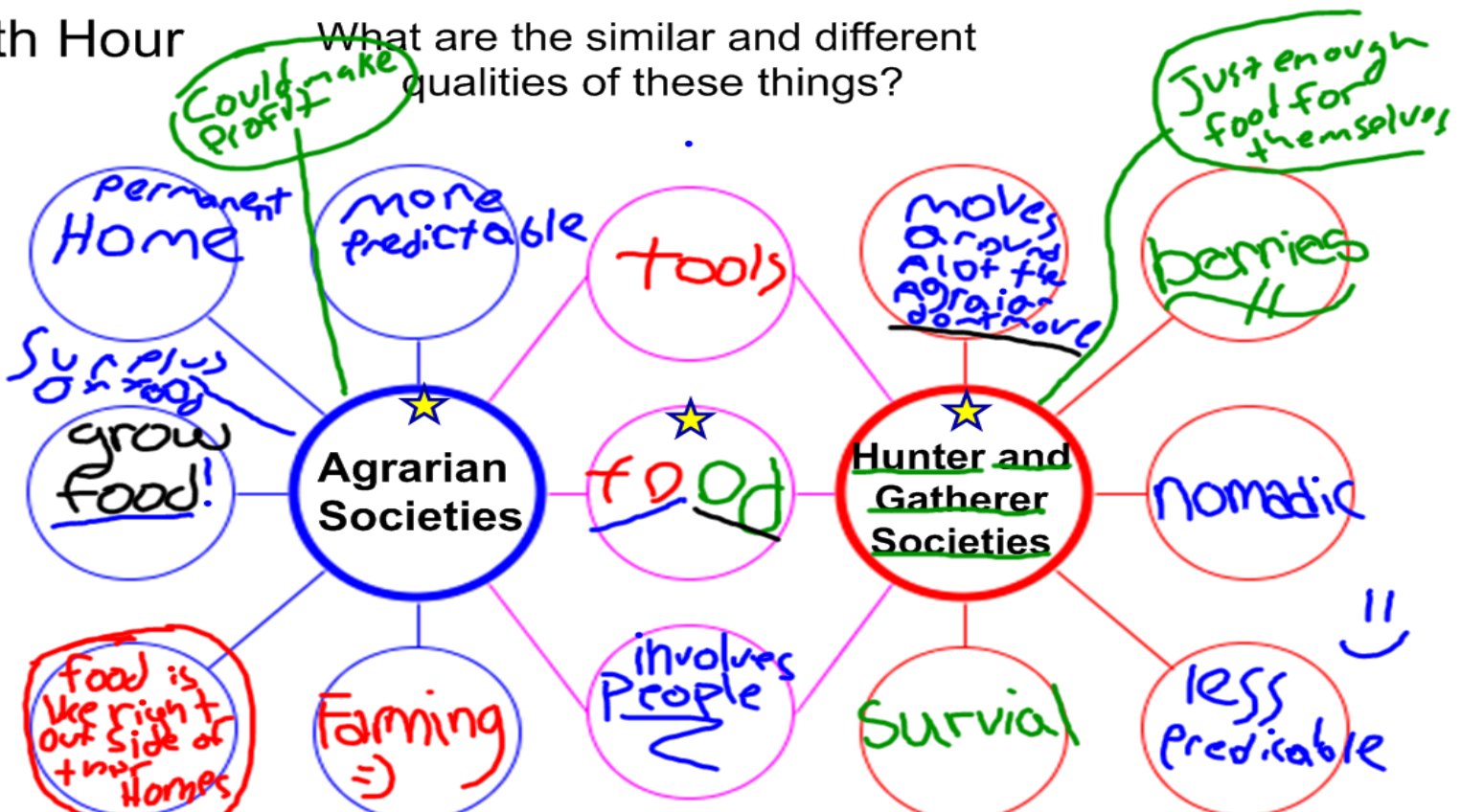
## How did agrarian societies differ from hunter and gatherers?

- The first agrarian societies thought, "Hey why cant we just grow our own food instead of hunting or gathering it?"
- Hunters and gatherers had to move with the food, but farmers just grew or raised it.
- Farmers settled on one piece of land instead of moving every time the area they lived in ran out of resources.
- Farming is an easier lifestyle because they didn't have to move around as much. Hunters and gatherers were nomadic so they were always moving.

- They are able to concentrate on the simple things in life like growing crops.
- Domesticated animals instead of hunting for them.

4th Hour

What are the similar and different qualities of these things?



## What are agrarian societies and what are the advantages/disadvantages of them?

### Advantages

- More regular food supply because people grow it instead of looking for it. Sometimes hunter and gatherers would move to a place with a lot of resources. Sometimes they found no resources.
- Farming gave agrarian societies a surplus of food.
  - Farmers were able to grow more food than they and their families needed, so they were able to trade the extra stuff or save it for winter.
  - So weather didn't affect food supply as much as hunter and gatherers because they had extra!
- In hunter-gatherer societies, women need a gap of at least three to four years between children, because it was dangerous to be traveling all the time with a bunch of babies. But with farming this was not a problem because they settled. Women were able to have children much more frequently. Population grew because of this.
- An Advantage is , that they don't have to move all over the place.

## Disadvantages

- In order to farm, you needed to “own” land so people had to fight over what land was theirs.
- Slavery was created to help in the fields
- Needs lots of precipitation, so need to farm in an area with a lot of rain.
- Needs to stay warm long enough to have a growing season.

Settled people were easier targets for attack.

- Early farmers planted a lot of the same crops and raised a lot of the same animals. Not having a balanced diet equals bad nutrition. More likely to suffer diseases.
- Farming gave us Surplus, which created Merchants to sell the surplus. Merchants got really wealthy and there was a lot of inequality.
- People were living together and not moving as much so they were able to pass diseases to each other easier.
- Deforestation and Desertification. Farmers destroyed the natural environment when they changed it to plant crops.

## Agrarian Societies

### Advantages

it gave medieval European countries wealth \$

lots of food!  
they don't have to hunt and gather.

A source of food for other people.  
• There is more food!

### Disadvantages

There was a lot of violence for land.

When the winter time comes all of crops will die  
no food!

Slaves needed

### What were the causes of the Neolithic Revolution?

- The ice age was ending and this made the environment better for growing food.
- An increase in population forced the people to stop hunting and gathering. They couldn't feed everyone by just finding food, they had to make their own
- Planting and growing their food would make it easier to feed a growing population.
- Hunting and gathering didn't always work out well. Sometimes there was food, sometimes there wasn't. Farming let them control the food supply better because they were growing plants and animals instead of having to find them.
- They discovered how to store and preserve food over the harsh winter months.
- Discovered that certain animals, such as goats, sheep, cattle and pigs, were easy to manage and so they domesticated them. Now they didn't have to hunt animals all the time, they just raised them until they were ready to eat.

Domesticated  
Animals & cultivated  
Crops.

What were the causes of this event?

Humans developed  
Simple tools  
Such as spears  
and axes

A population  
increase  
caused this

## The Neolithic Revolution

Food supplies  
became more  
reliable as people  
domesticated  
Animals and plant seed. :D

Why did this thing happen?

Almost every day people trap  
and killed animals to  
gain food without money

## What effects did the Neolithic Revolution

- Hunting and gathering was stopped, there are still a few people left in the world that do it, but now most people farm or get their food from farmers.
- We still grow our own food, and we don't have to move around and chase after a Krogers store.
- We still grow our own food but now it goes to stores like Meijer ,Kroger, Walmart, and more.
- Settling down to one place made people easy targets for attack. People wanted to steal other people's food supply
  - [City walls](#) were built to protect settlements
  - [Soldiers](#) were created to defend property
  - Fights over whose property was whose.
  - [Governments](#) were created to enforce laws, punish law-breakers, settle disputes, and fight wars. They started collecting taxes to pay for all of this.
- Good farming allows for a [surplus](#) of food.
- People were living together and not moving as much so they were able to pass diseases to each other easier.
- Pet ownership because of domestication
- [Selective breeding](#) because of domestication
- [Deforestation](#) and [Desertification](#). Farmers destroyed the natural environment when they changed it to plant crops.
- Part of the reason that West Asia is a desert is because of over farming of the land by early humans.

What happened next?

