

Classification Notes

Directions: Create categories for the ideas or information that relate to your topic. Put ideas or information in the same category if they have the same features or attributes in common. Some ideas or information may fit into more than one category. Create more categories on the back if needed.

TOPIC: _____Persian Empire_____

Category: Cyrus the Great	Category: Expanding the Empire	Category: Governing the Empire	Category: Persian Religion
<u>Ideas & Information</u> --559 B.C: became leader of the Persians --Satrapy: Persian province --Conquered Medea in 550BC. This began a confrontation with the three surviving powers of the ancient Near East – Lydia, Babylonia, and Egypt. --In 539 B.C., he captured the Babylonian empire in Mesopotamia. --Allowed the people of Judah to return to Jerusalem.	<u>Ideas & Information</u> --In 522 B.C., Darius emerged as the leader of Persia. --Darius built a canal from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean and codified Egyptian law. --In 499 B.C., the Ionian Greek cities revolted. The Athenians helped with the invasion of Lydia by the Ionians. --This led Darius to invade the Greek mainland, which led to the famous Battle of Marathon in 490 B.C.	<u>Ideas & Information</u> --By the reign of Darius, the Persian empire was the largest the world had ever seen. --The empire was divided into twenty provinces. --Over a period of time, the Kings of Persia came to hoard the wealth obtained through taxation. --The Persian monarchs created a standard army of professional soldiers who were international in character and composed of the various peoples of the empire.	<u>Ideas & Information</u> --Before the advent of Zoroastrianism in the 6 th century, the religion of the Persians focused on the worship of the powers of nature, such as the sun, moon, fire, and winds. --Mithras was an especially popular god of light and war who came to be viewed as a sun god. --The people sacrificed to the powers of nature with the aid of the priest, the Magi.