## The Spread of Greek Culture

## Alexander's Empire

## Within 11 years of becoming king, Alexander had conquered Persia, Egypt, and the lands extending beyond the Indus River in the east

- Alexander established cities in the lands he conquered, such as Alexandria and Alexandropolis
- In Babylon in 323 B.C., he came down with a fever and died
- Within 50 years, the empire broke apart into three Hellenistic kingdoms

## The Hellenistic Age

- Hellenistic comes from the word Hellas—the name Greeks gave their land
- Cities of the Hellenistic world were modeled after Greek cities; Greeks held the most power over local peoples
- The Hellenistic city Alexandria was famous as a capital for business, trade, and learning
- Alexandria had the largest library in the world
- Mathematics and science flourished in Alexandria
- Euclid developed geometry around 300 B.C.
- Eratosthenes believed Earth was round and calculated the distance around Earth