

## Neolithic Revolution

- For most of the time, humans have fed themselves by hunting and gathering
- Farming marks the time when people began to grow plants and raise animals for food. It probably developed in response to food shortages.  
(ie) extinction of animals or too few plants
- The switch to farming marks a gigantic change on how people related to their environment
- Instead of taking what nature simply provided to them, people began to help nature by controlling food production
- The shift from food gathering to food producing meant that people could now get enough food to eat. As well, it allowed people to settle in one place because of the dependable source of food.
- As food became more abundant, communities began to flourish. Farming was a giant step towards the development of a civilized world.
- Farming produced more food from the same amount of land. Thus, communities adopted farming and populations began to increase. These early settlements were the first towns/cities of the modern world.
- Civilization → Comes from Latin word civis, meaning citizen or someone who lives in a city.
- Neolithic Revolution forced people to live in permanent towns, from which societies began to develop. People acquired sophisticated knowledge of farming, trade, government, law, art, and science.
- Earliest civilizations emerged in northern hemisphere, in a moderate climatic zone. Others were located in river valleys, rich with soil. Most civilizations developed in areas where agriculture could flourish and population could grow rapidly.