1. **Do you know how and when the first libraries appeared?**
2. **Read the text and find out about the first libraries in the world.**

Libraries have been around for thousands of years. The first libraries were created in ancient civilizations such as Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Greece. These early libraries were often collections of clay tablets or papyrus scrolls that contained important information about religion, history, and law.

One of the earliest known libraries was the Library of Ashurbanipal in Nineveh, which was built in the 7th century BC by the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal. This library contained over 30,000 clay tablets with information on a wide range of topics, including astronomy, medicine, and literature.

The Library of Alexandria, which was built in the 3rd century BC in Egypt, is perhaps the most famous ancient library. It was founded by Ptolemy I Soter, one of Alexander the Great's generals, and contained hundreds of thousands of papyrus scrolls. Scholars from all over the world came to study at the Library of Alexandria, and it became a center of learning and scholarship.

In medieval Europe, monasteries were often centers of learning and had their own libraries. Monks would copy important texts by hand and add them to the library's collection. One of the most famous medieval libraries was the Library of Saint Gall in Switzerland, which was founded in the 8th century AD.

Today, libraries are still important institutions for learning and research. They contain books, magazines, newspapers, and other materials that people can borrow or use on-site. Many libraries also offer classes, workshops, and other educational programs for people of all ages.

Libraries have a long and rich history that dates back thousands of years. From ancient clay tablets to modern e-books, libraries have always been a vital resource for knowledge and learning.

PROJECT TASK:

Find information about famous libraries all over the world and present it to the class. Say

- where it is;
- why it is so special?

QUESTIONS TO THE TEXT

- When were the first libraries created, and what kind of materials did they contain?

- Who founded the Library of Alexandria, and why is it famous?

- Why are libraries still important institutions for learning and research today?