



# Ancient Egyptians



## Pupils will learn

- How Egyptian life was different to ours
- Why Egyptians mummified their dead.
- What was important to the Ancient Egyptians.
- Why the geography of the country played a part in shaping the civilisation
- How we can learn about the past from looking at artefacts.

## Important facts

### Timeline

#### Early Egypt

c.3100 - c.2600 BC

- Upper and Lower Egypt were united as one country under the first pharaoh Menes
- Earliest known hieroglyphic writing .
- Walled towns and villages were built.

#### Old Kingdom

c.2600 -2100 BC

- The Spinx was built.
- Egyptians began building pyramids
- The Great pyramid was built.
- Egyptians began experimenting with mummification.

#### Middle Kingdom

c. 2000 - c. 1650 BC

- Pyramid building declined and stopped.
- Orisis became the most important god, especially for ordinary people.

#### New Kingdom

1539-1075 BC

- Pyramids were replaced by elaborate tombs in the Valley of the Kings.
- Tutankhamun ruled during some of this period
- Ramesses II ruled for 67 years

#### Greek and Roman Egypt

332 BC-395 AD

- Cleopatra VII reigned (51-30 BC)
- Alexander the Great conquered Egypt
- The Romans took over Egypt after Cleopatra's death (30 BC).
- The Rosetta Stone was carved (196 BC)

## Local links

- Norwich Castle (Ancient Egypt room)
- Sainsbury's Centre for Visual Arts
- Swaffham Town museum [Howard Carter lived in Swaffham from childhood and the town museum is small but has a good Egyptian collection, including loans from the British Museum.]

## Home learning ideas

- Write in hieroglyphics
- Make the net of a pyramid with recycling.
- Finding out Ancient Egyptian facts on the internet.
- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Egypt.html>

## Books to read at home

- There's a Pharaoh in my Bath by Jeremy Strong
- The Red Pyramid by Rick Riordan
- Flat Stanley: The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery

## Inquiry Questions

- Why were people mummified?
- Was Tutankhamun an important pharaoh?
- How is Egypt different from England?
- Why is the River Nile so important?
- Are hieroglyphics better than our writing system?
- Is it right to have Ancient Egyptian artefacts in British museums?
- What did the Ancient Egyptians believe happened in the after life?
- What was it like to be a child in Ancient Egypt?
- How long ago did the Ancient Egyptians live?

## Further Information

### Fun Facts about Ancient Egypt

- Egyptian men and women wore makeup. ...
- They used mouldy bread to help with infections.
- They were one of the first civilizations to invent writing. ...
- The Ancient Egyptians were scientists and mathematicians. ...
- Ancient Egypt plays a major role in the Bible. ...
- The Pharaoh kept his hair covered.
- Howard Carter, the archeologist who found Tutankhamun's tomb came from Norfolk.

## Key Vocabulary

<b>Afterlife</b>	Egyptians believed that when they died they would make a journey to another world.	<b>Irrigation</b>	The process of supplying land with water.
<b>Akhet</b>	The season of the floods.	<b>Linen</b>	Clothing material made from flax.
<b>Amulet</b>	An item of jewellery thought to give protection.	<b>Monument</b>	Something put up to commemorate a person or event.
<b>Canopic Jar</b>	Used to store organs when the body was mummified.	<b>Mummification</b>	The process of preserving a body for burial.
<b>Delta</b>	The area where a river runs into the sea in many small channels.	<b>Papyrus</b>	Ancient Egyptian paper made from reeds.
<b>Desert</b>	An area where little rain falls and very few plants and animals live.	<b>Pharaoh</b>	An Egyptian king or ruler.
<b>Egyptologist</b>	A person who studies Egypt.	<b>Pyramid</b>	A triangular shaped structure built for the burial of important people.
<b>Hieroglyphics</b>	Ancient egyptian writing.	<b>Sarcophagus</b>	A stone coffin
<b>Achieve</b>	Successfully reach an objective or goal.	<b>Exclude</b>	Deny (someone) access or leave something out.
<b>Equate</b>	Consider one thing to be the same as another.	<b>Similar</b>	Having the same appearance.

\* Words in grey are Tier 2 (non-topic specific) vocabulary