



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 Egyptiant 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

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

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