

UU Summer Term Topic: Egyptian Explorers (vertical Driver: Our Place in the World)

Knowledge organisers- Ancient Egypt

Key information

The Ancient Egyptians ruled over 5000 years ago and lasted for 3000 years.

Pharaohs ruled Egyptians and one of the most famous was a boy called Tutankhamun.

Ancient Egypt depended on the waters of the River Nile, which flows through harsh and arid desert. Only the land on the banks of the Nile could be cultivated to support life and farm on. The rest of Egypt was, and is, desert.

The Ancient Egyptians made paper from reeds called papyrus and that is where we get the word 'paper'. They wrote in pictures called hieroglyphics.

The Egyptians were famous for creating magnificent buildings called Pyramids. The Egyptians built over 100 pyramids and some of them were almost 150 meters tall.

Ancient Egyptians believed in several gods and mummified the bodies of wealthy and famous people to send them to the afterlife safely.

Key figures – Egyptians believed in many gods and were ruled by Pharaohs.

Tutankhamun – He became pharaoh at the tender age of nine in 1337 BC and reigned during the 18th Dynasty. A team of British archaeologists discovered his tomb in 1922, nearly 3000 years after his death.

Key Vocabulary

Pharaoh – The pharaoh was at the top of the order, and thought to be a god.

Hieroglyphics – Pictures the ancient Egyptians used instead of words.

Papyrus – Paper that the Egyptians made from reeds to write hieroglyphics on.

Tomb – A burial place for many famous Egyptians, including pharaohs.

Mummification – The process of preserving the body of a person to allow them to enter the afterlife.



Key Questions:

1. Where was Ancient Egypt Located?
2. What are hieroglyphs?
3. Who were the pharaohs of Egypt?
4. What is a canopic jar?
5. Who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb?
6. How did the ancient Egyptians live?
7. What is so special about the River Nile?
8. Why did they build pyramids?
9. What is papyrus?
10. How were mummies made?

Key Texts: Horrible Histories series: Awesome and awful Egyptians. By Terry Deary.

Various non-fiction text available on the Ancient Egyptians.

The Egyptian cat mystery by Penny Dolan.

Time Hunters Series: Egyptian Curse by Chris Blake.



Challenge tasks: Search for information texts to reserve/loan from the library. [Search Results for egyptians \(sirsidynix.net.uk\)](#) * Create your own mini topic around your chosen aspect of the Ancient Egyptians. * The Egyptians left out most vowels. Write a letter to a friend using no vowels and see if they can fill in the blanks. * Tombs: list items that you would take into your tomb. * Hold an Ancient Egyptian banquet, remember to sit on the floor and have a water bowl nearby to dip your hands in! Try some Ancient Egyptian foods like figs, lentils, honey and dates. You could even make some Egyptian bread.

The Valley of the Kings—a burial site for many Egyptian pharaohs.



Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's burial chamber in the Valley of the Kings

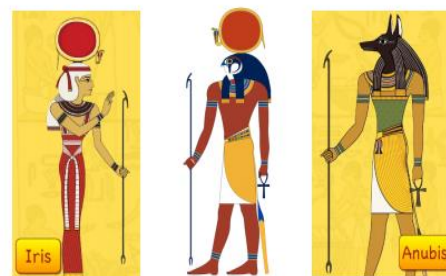


The Rosetta Stone is written in two languages (Greek and Egyptian).

It helped researchers to decipher hieroglyphics and find out much more about what life was like for Ancient Egyptians.



The Ancient Egyptians believed in many gods and goddesses who ruled different aspects of their lives—Iris was the goddess of nature, Anubis was the god of death and Ra the Sun God.



The Great Pyramids of Giza—contain burial chambers of pharaohs and their queens. Was the tallest man-made structure for almost 4000 years.



Mummification—a process of preserving bodies for use in the afterlife.



Places to visit: [national Geographic Ten Facts About Ancient Egypt | National Geographic Kids \(natgeokids.com\)](#)

This gives a list of all the museums that have Ancient Egyptian artefacts/displays in the UK. [Britain's best places to see: Ancient Egyptian artefacts - Museum Crush](#)

Online resources: [An introduction to Ancient Egypt - BBC Bitesize](#) Plenty of videos and photos of artefacts. <https://youtu.be/G16dOS5ncFc> This is a link to video of ancient Egyptian music with images of Gods that you could sketch. [Professions and Occupations in Ancient Egypt for Kids - Ancient Egypt for Kids \(mrdonn.org\)](#) Find out about jobs in Ancient Egypt. Some parts of the bible are set in Egypt. Read the story of Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt. [Religious Studies KS1: The Jewish Story of Moses - BBC Teach](#).