

Ancient Egypt Knowledge Planner

What should I already know?

- Egypt is a country in the continent of Africa.
- The climate of Egypt is different to that of the UK.
- Human and physical geographical features of Egypt.
- What life was like in Stone Age Britain.

The story of Ancient Egypt has survived for thousands of years. Egypt was one of the greatest civilizations of the past. Monuments and tombs of their Pharaohs continue to stand intact today, some 4,000 years later. A good portion of the Old Testament takes place in or around Egypt. Egypt also plays a major role in the life of many Bible people from Moses and Joseph to Jesus.

The Ancient Egyptians lived along the banks of the River Nile. Farmers first settled in Egypt along the River Nile around 5000BCE. About 95% of Egypt's population still live in the Nile valley. Egypt is mainly made up of hot deserts and receives little rainfall.



Key Vocabulary	
Afterlife	A life that some people believe begins when you die, for example a life in heaven or as another person or animal
Archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains
Artefacts	An object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like
Chronology	The order of events in time circa Latin meaning 'around'. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
Crops	A cultivated plant that is grown on a large scale commercially, especially a cereal, fruit, or vegetable.
Deities	A god or goddess
Empire	An extensive group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch, an oligarchy, or a sovereign state.
Fertile land	Bearing, producing, or capable of producing vegetation, crops, etc.
Floods	An overflow of a large amount of water beyond its normal limits, especially over what is normally dry land.
Hieroglyphs	Writing consisting of hieroglyphs.
Mummification	If a dead body is mummified, it is preserved, for example by rubbing it with special oils and wrapping it in cloth
Mummy	A body of a human being or animal that has been ceremonially preserved by removal of the internal organs, treatment with natron and resin, and wrapping in bandages.
Papyrus	A material prepared from the pithy stem of a water plant, used in for writing or painting on and also for making articles such as rope.
Pharaoh	A ruler in ancient Egypt.
Pyramid	A monumental structure with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top.
sarcophagus	a large decorative container in which a dead body was placed in ancient times
settler/ settlement	people who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a settlement society people in general, thought of as a large organized group
Sphinx	An ancient Egyptian stone figure having a lion's body and a human or animal head.
tomb	a large grave that is above ground

Important Facts

The Nile was important because it provided water for crops but also fertile soil - this means that people settled near the banks of the Nile as it was considered a prime location. They were among the first civilisations to use irrigation systems.	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 Nile also provided mud for bricks and pots, opportunities for fishing, papyrus reeds and a key means of transport.	Egyptian society was very hierarchical - this means that some groups of people were deemed more important than others. Each group had a different role to play in Egyptian society.
We know about ancient Egyptian life because of evidence such as the pyramids, the artefacts that were found there and methods of communications such as the use of hieroglyphics and papyrus rolls.	Mummification was the process of preserving a body - this process was very important to the Egyptians as they believed this would prepare the body for their journey into the afterlife.
Religion was very important in Ancient Egypt. They were polytheists - they believed in different gods and goddesses that were in charge of different parts of their lives. These were called deities.	The bodies of important people, such as pharaohs, were placed in these pyramids, which were built as tombs.
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



Timeline

6000 BCE	5000 BCE	4500 BCE	3500 BCE	3000 BCE	2500 BCE	1325 BCE	332 BCE	1922 CE
Early people settled in the Nile Valley.	Egyptians farmed sheep and cattle. Some grew wheat and barley in the Nile Valley.	Sails were used on Egyptian ships – boats were the main form of transport in Ancient Egypt.	Craftsmen began to create the first wall paintings using hieroglyphic symbols.	Walled towns and villages were built in Egypt. Buildings were made of mud brick.	The Great Sphinx and Great pyramid at Giza was built.	King Tutankhamun was buried in the valley of the Kings.	Egypt was invaded by Alexander the Great and was ruled by Greek Kings.	Tutankhamun's tomb was discovered by Howard Carter.