

EGYPTIANS — Key vocabulary



Egypt

A country in Africa.



Ancient Egypt

Ancient Egypt was one of the world's first civilizations.



hieroglyphics

Hieroglyphics is a writing system that uses pictures and symbols instead of letters and words.



Pharaohs

The supreme leaders during the Ancient Egyptian civilisation.



scarab beetle

The scarab bug symbolized the restoration of life.



Tutankhamun

Tutankhamun (sometimes called King Tut) was a Pharaoh of Ancient Egypt from about 1334 BC to 1323 BC.



Cleopatra

Cleopatra was the Queen of Ancient Egypt and is still one of the most famous women in world history.



River Nile

The Nile is the longest river in the world.



trade

The buying and selling of goods and services

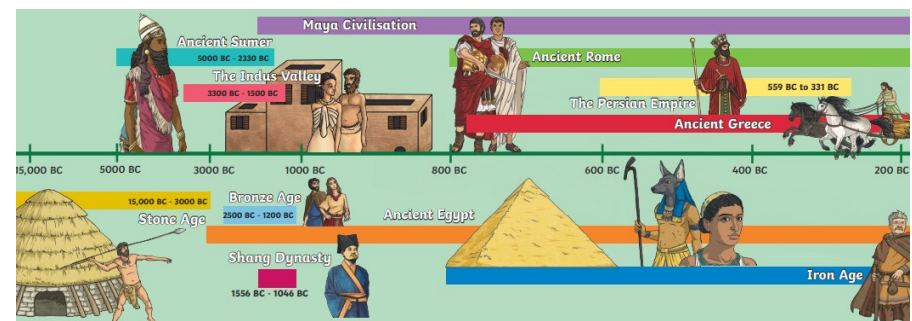


papyrus

a material like paper used by ancient people to write on

Key Questions and Facts

Where is Egypt?	Egypt is a country in Africa. Its capital city is Cairo. It is bordered by the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. The River Nile runs through Egypt.
When was Ancient Egypt?	The ancient Egyptian civilisation began 5,000 years ago when people started building villages next to the River Nile. It lasted for around 3,000 years.
Who were the most significant people in Egyptian times?	The most powerful person was the pharaoh. They were similar to Kings or Queens and were thought of as half human, half God. The Egyptians used different symbols to show the power and importance of the Pharaoh including the scarab beetle, the ankh, the uraeus, the cartouche and a crook and flail. There were around 170 Egyptian pharaohs including Tutankhamun and Cleopatra.
Why was the Nile important to Ancient Egypt? Do people still live by the Nile in Egypt?	The River Nile was very important. When the Nile flooded, it produced a rich, black silt over the land making the land very fertile creating perfect conditions for growing food. The Nile also gave the opportunity for transport, fishing, trade, water, the making of papyrus, bricks and the calendar. Today, 50 million people live by the Nile.
What structures did the Egyptians build by the Nile?	The Egyptians built pyramids. They were mainly built as tombs for Egyptian kings. The body was mummified, placed in a sarcophagus and then buried inside the pyramid.
How do pyramids help us to find out about the Egyptians?	The chambers and passages in pyramids were decorated with pictures and hieroglyphics. This writing tells stories of the Pharaoh. Treasure and other items for the king to use in the afterlife were also left in the burial chamber.
Who was Howard Carter?	Howard Carter was an archaeologist who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings. This tomb was well preserved and contained lots of valuable items including a burial mask, statues and jewellery.



Links to Prior Learning

The children will continue to develop their mapping skills using atlases to locate key places and features on a map. Following on from their Rivers learning, they will research why the Nile was so important to the Egyptians both long ago and today.