



Ancient Egypt



Egypt is a country in Africa. People lived in early settlements around the River Nile in Egypt from around 7000 years ago and the Ancient Egyptian civilization started to grow around 3100BCE. The Ancient Egyptian civilization is considered one of the greatest in history, known for its inventiveness and power. It lasted for just over 3000 years.

Key Knowledge

River Nile

The River Nile provided the Egyptians with many essential resources such as food, trade and transport, fertile land for farming, clothing, bricks and paper. Egyptians had 3 farming seasons: Akhet (flood season), Peret (planting season) and Shamu (harvesting season).

Mummification

The ancient Egyptians had a strong religious belief that when a person died they would return to an 'afterlife' that was almost the same as the life they had when they were alive. In their belief, the body needed to be preserved so that the person could return. Using special processes, the Egyptians removed all the moisture from the body, leaving only a dried form that would not easily decay. The mummification process took seventy days. Each mummy needed hundreds of yards of linen so that it could be completely wrapped up.



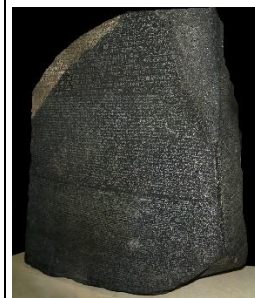
Pyramids

The Ancient Egyptians were famous for their pyramids. The Pyramid of Giza was the tallest. It was built over 4500 ago and is made of around 2,300,000 bricks! It is one of the old 'Seven Wonders of the World'. Historians believe it took around 20 years to build.



Hieroglyphics

The Ancient Egyptians created a way of writing using symbols called hieroglyphics. Specially trained scribes were important people because they had the job of writing hieroglyphics. Important people like pharaohs would have their name written inside a special oval shape called a cartouche. In 1799, historians discovered an important clue to help decode the hieroglyphics: The Rosetta Stone.

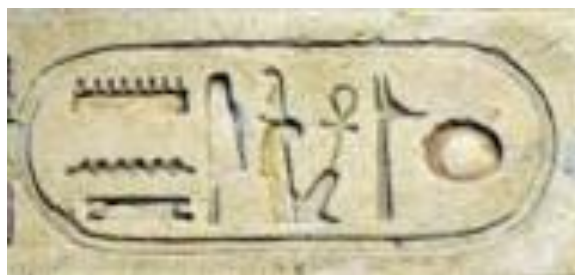












Tutankhamun

One of Egypt's most famous pharaohs. His tomb was discovered almost intact and full of treasure in 1920. He became king when he was only 9 years old.

Key Vocabulary

canopic jars	The Egyptians used them for safekeeping of particular human organs.
cartouches	An oval figure containing the written symbols (characters) of an important name, such as that of royal or divine people.
Egyptian Gods	The Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt were an integral part of the people's everyday lives. There were over 2000 gods.
embalm	To preserve a body by treating it and wrapping it.
Hieroglyphs	A script made up of small pictures that was used originally in ancient Egypt for religious texts.
Howard Carter	Egyptologist who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb.
Mummification	A process of preserving bodies to stop them decaying
Organs	The human body contains 5 organs that are considered vital for survival. They are the heart, brain, kidneys, liver and lungs.
Pharaoh	An ancient Egyptian ruler.
Rosetta Stone	A stone with writing on it in two languages (Egyptian and Greek). It allowed researchers to translate hieroglyphic writing for the first time
sarcophagus	A stone coffin, typically adorned with a sculpture or inscription.
Scribe	Important person, specially trained to write hieroglyphics.
The River Nile	The longest river in Africa and it runs through Egypt.
tomb	A large vault, typically an underground one, for burying the dead.



									
Ancient Egypt	Romans and Celts	St Nicholas Church	Queen Elizabeth I	The Great Fire of London	Florence Nightingale	The arrival of the railways	The coronation of Queen Elizabeth II	Pyrford School opened	Moon Landing
3,100BC	750BC	1140	1559	1666	1820	1825	1953	1950	1969
Year 3	Year 3	Year 2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 1