



History: Ancient Egypt

Year 6

Key vocabulary

pyramid	a structure with a square and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top, especially one built of stone as a royal tomb in ancient Egypt
mummification	the process of preserving a body after death in preparation for the afterlife
papyrus	a plant that grew on the banks of the Nile, used as an early version of paper
pharaoh	The supreme leader of Ancient Egypt
hieroglyphs	writing using a combination of pictures and symbols
sarcophagus	a large stone box that held a mummy's coffin, often richly decorated.
canopic jars	special jars that held the organs of a mummy, including the lungs, intestines, liver and stomach
inundation	the annual flooding of the Nile



Key knowledge

The Ancient Egyptians were an advanced civilization in northern Africa who lived at the same time as the Bronze Age societies in Britain.

Society was hierarchical and your place in society was defined by your role e.g. farmers and slaves, craftsmen, scribes and soldiers, nobles and priest, vizier, pharaoh

Ancient Egyptians believed in the 'afterlife'. Bodies were mummified to preserve them but it was expensive, so only happened to rich people. Most people were poor and buried in pits in the desert. Pyramids were built as burial tombs for the most important people in society



Ancient Egypt was ruled by pharaoh. Tutankhamun became pharaoh at the age of 8 or 9.

Ancient Egyptians stopped hunting and gathering and began farming the land on the Nile which flooded annually and provided fertile soil. Poor people were the workers (slaves).



Many poor slaves and farm workers did the difficult lifting and building

Hieroglyphics were one of the earliest known writing systems. These were written by scribes

Howard Carter was an archaeologist who discovered Tutankhamun's nearly intact tomb in 1922.



Chronology



7500 BC First settlers in Nile Valley

2555 BC Pyramids at Giza were built

1332 BC Tutankhamun became pharaoh

518 BC Cleopatra VII became the last pharaoh of Egypt

30 BC Roman's took over Egypt

Macro study: Ancient Civilisations

Micro study: Ancient Egypt and alternative government structures

We are building our knowledge of world civilisations (Yr3, the Romans; Yr 4, the Mayans; Yr 5, the Greeks)

We are building our knowledge to help us study History in KS3

