

History • World History: Ancient Egyptians

Key Learning Question: How was Egyptian life and Egyptian death different for different people?



Crucial Knowledge

- The Ancient Egyptians were an advanced civilization in northern Africa who lived at the same time as the Bronze Age societies in Britain.
- Ancient Egyptians stopped hunting and gathering and began farming the land on the Nile. Poor people were the workers (slaves).
- Hieroglyphics were one of the earliest known writing systems. Mostly it was rich men who could read and write.
- Pyramids were built as burial tombs for the most important people in society. Many poor slaves and farm workers did the difficult lifting and building.
- 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.
- The discovery of Tutankhamun revealed that the Great Pharaohs were placed in jewelled coffins and preserved in elaborate tombs filled with treasure.



Key Vocabulary

- pyramid: Stone structures built as a tomb
- civilization a group of people with their own languages and way of life
- mummification: Preparing a dead body for journey to afterlife
- papyrus: A material like paper used by ancient people to write on
- pharaoh King or Queen of Egypt
- hieroglyphs: Written language of symbols and pictures
- Nile: River that runs through Egypt
- sarcophagus a stone container for a coffin or body
- agriculture the entire process of farming from preparing the ground through to producing products

Big Ideas: Chronology • Civilization • Legacy
• Monarch • Afterlife • Society



Important People & Places



Tutankhamun

Tutankhamun became pharaoh at the age of 8 or 9. He was buried with many treasures.



Cleopatra VII

Cleopatra was the last Pharaoh of Egypt. She reigned Egypt first with her father, then her brothers and then finally by herself. She reigned for 21 years.



Howard Carter

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



We Are Building Our Knowledge From

- The Victorians (Y2)

This will help when we learn about

- Ancient Greeks (Y4)
- Early Islamic Civilization (Y5)



Timeline

7500 BC

First settlers in Nile Valley

3200 BC

First evidence of Hieroglyphs

2555 BC

Pyramids at Giza built

1332 BC

Boy king Tutankhamun becomes Pharaoh

518 BC

Cleopatra VII is the last Pharaoh of Egypt

30 BC

Romans take over

1922

Howard Carter discovers tomb.