



Ancient Egyptians



Timeline

300BC	2687BC	1334BC	1325BC	196BC	1922AD
Earliest known hieroglyphics.	The first ever pyramid- the step pyramid-is built.	Tutankhamun becomes pharaoh at the age of 9 years.	Tutankhamun dies at the age of 18 and his tomb is sealed.	The Rosetta Stone is carved.	Howard Carter discovers Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

Key Vocabulary

Archaeologist	A person who investigates civilisations from the remains they leave behind.
Canopic jar	A set of four, god-headed jars used to store a dead person's embalmed organs.
Cartouche	An oval with a straight line set against it, and which contains the hieroglyphics of a pharaoh.
Embalm	To treat a dead body with chemicals to preserve it.
Mummification	A process of preserving the body.
Sanctuary	A place of safety. The heart of a temple where the gods might come down to Earth.
Sarcophagus	A stone coffin.
Dynasty	A group of related royal rulers.
amulet	A charm made of special stone that was placed in the mummy wrapping as a good luck charm.
Pharaoh	A king of Ancient Egypt.

Sticky Knowledge

Who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb and when?

Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley Of The Kings in November 22. It had not been touched in over 3000 years and was fully intact. It had taken him years to find it and he only had enough money left for one more attempt when he finally found the tomb of the boy king.



Why was a pharaoh mummified?

A pharaoh was mummified to preserve their body and allow them to pass into the afterlife something which the Ancient Egyptians believed was extremely important. They were mummified rather than buried because their bodies would not decompose in sand and were dug up by animals in the desert. Their organs, such as their heart, kidneys and livers, were removed and placed in Canopic jars to preserve them as it was believed they too were needed for the next life.



What were hieroglyphics and how can they be understood?

Hieroglyphics were pictures that the Ancient Egyptians used as a form of writing either on the walls of tombs and temples or on sheets of papyrus. For thousands of years, nobody understood what they actually meant because the language was lost in time until the Rosetta Stone was discovered which allowed people to translate Hieroglyphics as it was also written in Greek and Arabic.



Why was the River Nile important in Ancient Egypt?

The River Nile acted as a form of transport allowing things to move up and down the country which meant that goods could be traded which benefited the Egyptian economy. It was also the only source of water available for people to use to drink and bathe in. The land around the river was fertile and good for growing food.

History Skills

By the end of this unit the children will:

Understand the concepts of continuity and change over time, representing them, along with evidence
Use dates and terms accurately in describing events

To use appropriate historical vocabulary to communicate, including: dates, era, continuity, century, legacy, time period, chronology, change.

Use relevant historical vocabulary to ask and answer questions.

Pursue historically valid enquiries using questions devised as a stimulus

Compare and contrast between past periods of time and societies.

Discern between past periods of time and societies analysing trends
Clarify the similarities and differences between cultural, social and religious aspects of a period of time.

