

Ancient Egyptians

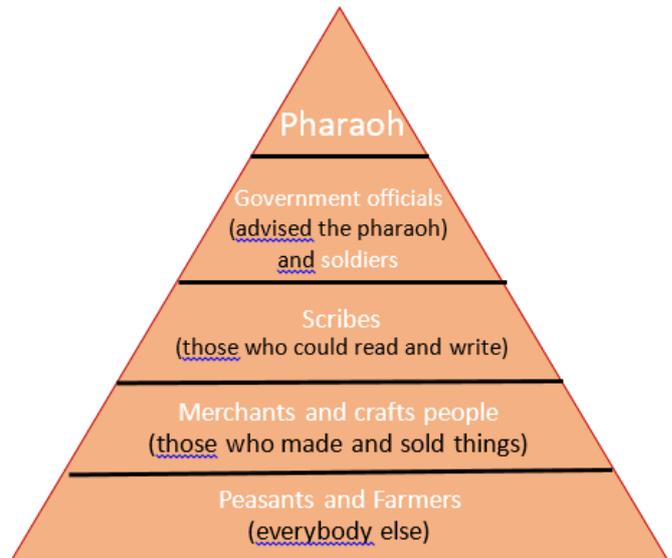
History topic

Ancient Egypt is a civilisation from a long time ago (ancient). The Ancient Egyptian empire started to grow around 3100 BC. It lasted for just over 3000 years.



Egypt is a country on the continent of Africa. It is made up of 90% desert land and hardly any rain falls there.

The ancient society was ruled by a pharaoh and is still considered one of the greatest in history, known for its inventiveness and power.



A brief timeline of Ancient Egypt

7500 BC	3200 BC	2640 BC	2555 BC	2250 BC	2200 BC	1539 BC	1332 BC	51 BC
The first settlers arrived in the Nile Valley.	Hieroglyphs are used to keep trade records.	The first pyramids are built.	The pyramids at Giza are built for the kings Kufu, Kharge and Menkaure.	The Great Sphinx is built.	First ploughs attached to oxen.	Valley of the Kings starts and Pharaohs are buried with their treasures.	The 10 year rule of Tutankhamun begins.	Cleopatra's reign begins, the Egyptian civilisation ends.

Pharaohs

The rulers of Ancient Egypt were called pharaohs. The pharaoh was the most important, powerful person in Egypt and some people considered the pharaoh to be a god. Tutankhamun is one of the most famous pharaohs. He was only 8 or 9 when he became a ruler and is often known as the 'boy king'.

The Nile

The River Nile is about 4,160 miles long and is the longest river in Africa. The River Nile was very important to the Egyptians as it provided water for drinking and watering crops. The Egyptians could also use the river to travel. The River Nile flooded every year between June and September and the area next to the river was very fertile.

Gods

Gods and goddesses had roles in controlling everything in life. They were represented usually with a human figure and an animal's head. Ancient Egyptians believed that by leading a good life and preserving the body correctly, a person could access the afterlife. Mummification took 70 days.

Hieroglyphics

Ancient Egyptians used a system of picture writing called hieroglyphics. Each hieroglyph represented an object or letter and there were around 700 different symbols – making it very difficult to read. The Rosetta Stone is an ancient Egyptian carving. It helped us to translate the language.

Vocabulary for this topic:

ancient, archaeology, civilisation, empire, society, hierarchy, scribe, kingdom, reign, pharaoh, tomb, burial, sarcophagus, trade, papyrus, irrigation, pyramids, sphinx, obelisk, worship, afterlife, mummification, canopic jar, embalmers, scarab beetle, hieroglyphics, rosetta stone, cartouche,