

Knowledge Organiser

Year 4
Autumn 1

Ancient Egypt

Vocabulary

Archaeologist: a person who studies people and artefacts of the past

Excavate: to uncover artefacts by digging

Hieroglyphics: writing used by the Ancient Egyptians, carved onto stone monuments. Greek word for : "God's words"

Nile: Longest river in Africa and runs through Egypt

Mummification: the process of preserving a dead body as a mummy

Pharaoh : ruler of Ancient Egypt

Rosetta Stone: is an ancient Egyptian stone bearing inscriptions in several languages and scripts. Their decipherment led to the understanding of hieroglyphic writing

Ancient Egypt

Knowledge:

- The Nile was important because it provided water for crops but also fertile soil - this means that people settled near the banks of the Nile as it was considered a prime location. They were among the first civilisations to use irrigation systems.
- The Nile also provided mud for bricks and pots, opportunities for fishing, papyrus reeds and a key means of transport.
- We know about Ancient Egyptian life because of artefacts found and methods of communications such as the use of hieroglyphics and papyrus rolls.
- Egyptian society was very hierarchical. Each group had a different role to play in Egyptian society.
- Mummification was very important to the Egyptians as they believed this would prepare the body for their journey into the afterlife.
- The bodies of important people, such as pharaohs, were placed in these pyramids, which were built as tombs.
- Religion was very important in Ancient Egypt. They were polytheists - they believed in different gods and goddesses that were in charge of different parts of their lives. These were called deities.



Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's burial chamber in the Valley of the Kings.

Mummification—a process of preserving bodies for use in the afterlife.



What we will learn by the end of the unit

- Location, origin in settlements around the Nile, living by the Nile, the role of the Nile in developing belief systems as well as agriculture.
- How the power structures (pharaohs, the double crown) were linked to the geography of Egypt; how they were sustained through art, writing, belief systems.
- Ancient Egyptian religion, government, art, great monuments, beliefs about death, farming.
- How Egypt changed through time - kingdoms, art, pyramids, beliefs and writing
- Recognise changes in Ancient Egypt overtime

