



Year 4 History Knowledge Organiser – The Ancient Egyptians

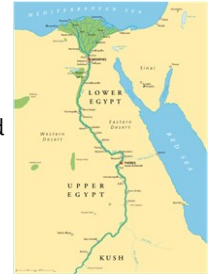


Key Vocabulary

Egyptian	The people of Egypt.
Ancient	Something in the very distant past and no longer in existence.
Civilization	A society, culture and way of life in a certain area.
Fertile	Soil or land that is good for growing.
Irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help growth, usually by making channels.
Papyrus	A material prepared from the stem of a water plant to make paper and rope.
Pharaoh	A ruler in Ancient Egypt.
Reign	Ruling as king or queen.
God/Goddess	A superhuman being or spirit who is worshipped.
Afterlife	A belief in some religions that there is life after death.
Mummification	Preparing a body so it does not decay.
Embalmer	A person whose job it is to preserve the body using chemicals.
Amulet	An ornament or small piece of jewellery thought to give protection against evil, danger or disease.
Sarcophagus	A stone coffin usually decorated with images or writing.
Hieroglyphics	The formal writing system used by Ancient Egyptians. Each symbol would stand for a word or part of a word.
Tomb	A monument to the memory of a dead person.
Pyramid	A monumental structure built of stone as a royal tomb in ancient Egypt.
Archaeologist	A person who studies human history and prehistory by studying sites and artefacts.



Egypt is located in the north-eastern corner of Africa. It once was split into Lower and Upper Egypt until it was united by the first pharaoh. Its landscape is 90 per cent desert. Pharaohs ruled Egypt for more than 3000 years.



Who were the Ancient Egyptians?

- The Ancient Egyptians were one of the most advanced civilizations. Lasting from 3100BC–30BC before they were conquered by the Romans.
- The Ancient Egyptians believed in over 2000 gods and goddesses. They built many temples and statues for them. Gods like Osiris, god of the underworld, was important and one of the most worshipped.
- The Egyptians followed a calendar that was influenced by the River Nile. There were seasons of flood, growth and harvest. When the flood disappeared, it would leave behind a rich, fertile black soil.
- Ancient Egyptian society was ruled by the pharaoh. Although they were at the bottom of society, farmers and slaves were important as they looked after the crops and built homes.

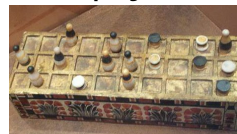
Ancient Egyptian Warriors



Early on, warriors were only recruited in time of war and were not always well trained. In later years the pharaohs kept a professional army of **spearmen, archers, and charioteers** to show the world their power. The bravest soldiers were given amulets shaped like flies, to show that they had stung the enemy.

Entertainment

Ancient Egyptian entertainment included festivals, ceremonies, games, sports, dance, music, hunting and toys. Popular games were **Senet** and **Mehen (played on a round board with spaces shaped like a coiled snake)**.



Tutankhamun

Tutankhamun was one of the youngest pharaohs aged nine years. He died at age 19. His tomb was discovered untouched in the Valley of the Kings.



Howard Carter

In 1922, Howard Carter, an archaeologist discovered the hidden tomb of Tutankhamun, the 'boy king'. The tomb held many treasures that are still in museums today.