

Our Learning Keys

Ancient Egypt

History

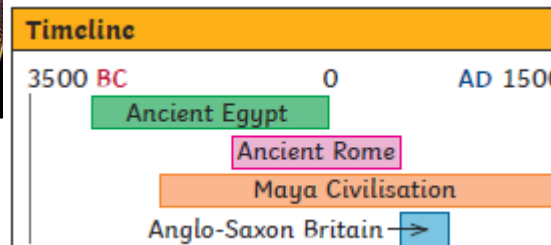
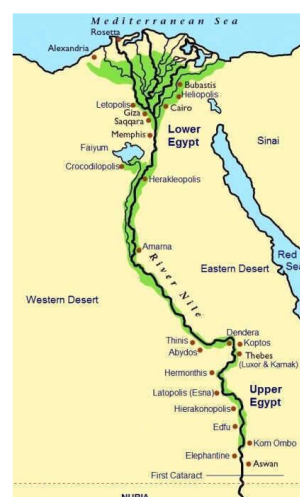
Year 4

Autumn

Questions

- Who were the Ancient Egyptians?
- What was life like for them?
- How do we know about the Ancient Egyptians?

Images



Vocabulary

Papyrus: The Egyptians made paper from reeds called papyrus - it's where we get the word 'paper' from.

Hieroglyphics: The Egyptians wrote in pictures called hieroglyphics, each picture means something.

Pharaohs: Kings and queens in Egypt were called pharaohs. Egyptians believed that pharaohs were gods.

Mummification: The Egyptians invented mummification, which is a process of preserving a body.

Archaeologist: The scientific study of material remains (such as tools, pottery, jewellery) of past human life and activities.

BC: Used to show that a date is before the year 0. This is counted backwards, so 200 BC is before 100 BC.

AD: Used to show that a date is after the year 0. This is counted forwards, so AD 100 is before AD 200.

Cartouche: An oval shape in which the names of kings and queens were often written in hieroglyphics to show that they were special.

Canopic jars: containers in which the separately mummified organs would be placed.

Facts

- 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 evidence such as the pyramids, the artefacts that were found there and methods of communications such as the use of hieroglyphics and papyrus rolls.
- Egyptian society was very hierarchical - this means that some groups of people were deemed more important than others. Each group had a different role to play in Egyptian society.
- Mummification was the process of preserving a body - this process 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.
- 3500 BC: Early settlers settle in the Nile valley.
- 3100 BC: Development of hieroglyphics.
- 2700 BC: First stone pyramid built.
- AD 300: Last use of hieroglyphic writing.
- 1922: Howard Carter discovers the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Links

- Literacy:** The Egyptian Cinderella, The Time Slip Scarab, how to mummify a Pharaoh - instructions,
- PSHE:** To understand the lives of others.
- Geography:** Where in the World did the ancient civilisation live?

Doors this will open...

Historian

Teacher

Museum curator

Archaeologist

Previously...

Studied events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally.

Significant historical events, people and places in our locality.

Year 2 - the Great Fire of London.

Year 3 - The Romans

Next...

In Years 5 and 6, we will learn about the Stone age, iron age, Vikings and Anglo Saxons.