

# Study Guide - History

Year: 3	Subject: History	Unit of Study: Ancient Egypt	Linked Literature: Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt, The Red Pyramid
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Stone Age

Iron Age

Ancient Egypt

Ancient Greece

Ancient Rome

Anglo Saxons

Vocabulary	
Pharaohs	The ancient Egyptians were ruled by Kings and Queens called Pharaohs.
Mummification	Preserving a body and wrapping it in cloth as part of a religious belief in an afterlife.
Pyramids	Pyramids were built as tombs for Pharaohs in ancient Egypt.
Archaeology	Studying objects from the past to understand what life might have been like years ago.
Artefacts	A man-made object such as tools or art work.
The Nile	The longest river on earth in Egypt, Africa.
Canopic Jars	A jar used by ancient Egyptians to hold mummified remains.
Solar Calendar	A calendar based on the sun

## I need to know:

The ancient Egyptian civilisation began 5,000 years ago when people started building villages next to the river **Nile**. This lasted around 3,000 years. The ancient Egyptians were very intelligent and invented the **solar calendar** and wrote using hieroglyphs. The ancient Egyptians were ruled by kings and queens called **Pharaohs**; they worshipped over 2,000 gods and goddesses. They also believed in an afterlife which is why they preserve bodies through **mummification**. Some pharaohs built their tombs in the shape of giant **pyramids**.

There was a large variety of jobs in Ancient

## I need to know (continued):

Egypt. As there were no schools, even children had jobs. Usually you would do the same jobs as your parents, so if your dad was a farmer you would become a farmer too. **Archaeologists** believe that their houses would have been made from mud brick and the flooring would be the earth. There would have been a living room, kitchen and bedrooms but no electricity or gas. Food would have been cooked in stone ovens using fire for heat. Food was kept cool by being stored underground.

The **River Nile** is the longest river in the world and flows through northern Africa, including Egypt. Most Egyptians lived near the **Nile** as it provided water, transportation and excellent soil for growing food. There were three seasons in the Egyptians calendar: Akhet, Peret and Shemu. Akhet was the season of heavy rain, causing flooding of the Nile; farmland could be covered by 2 metres of water. Peret occurred as floodwater levels went down, leaving fertile mud behind. Shemu was the season of Harvest when Egyptians collected seeds to plant the following year. The Nile also provided Reeds called papyrus which Egyptians used to make paper and boats.

**Archaeologists** use artefacts that we have found in Egypt such as mummies, hieroglyphics, pyramids and homes to make predictions about what life was like in Ancient Egypt. **Hieroglyphics** were symbols they used that we can translate to learn about Ancient Egypt.

Artificial preservation was developed by the ancient Egyptians. During this process all major organs were removed and placed in **Canopic jars**. The heart was left in the body because Egyptians believed that in the afterlife it would be weighed to see whether the person led a good life. The **Canopic jars** were decorated with the heads of the four sons of Horus. The body of the person is **mummified** which is a process which lasted 70 days; the body is wrapped in strands of linen and placed in a stone coffin called a sarcophagus.

## I need to do:

Establish a clear narrative across periods of time

Understand how life differed in Ancient Egypt to our life today

Begin to develop knowledge of why Egyptians settled by the Nile and how it supported their lives.

Understand why ancient Egyptians had mummies and pyramids.



What do we know about the Egyptians?

What was life like as an Egyptian?

Why settle along the Nile?

How do we know about ancient Egypt?

Why did Egyptians have Canopic Jars and Mummies?

What do we know about Ancient Egyptians?