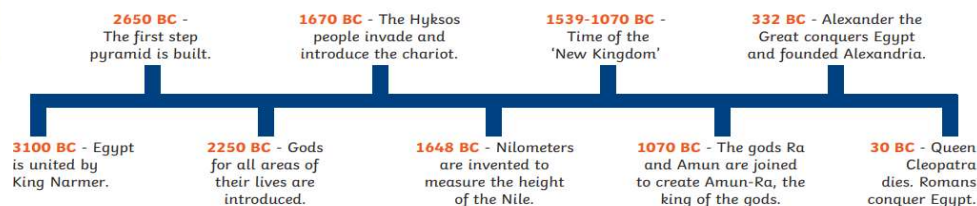




Knowledge Organiser: Year 5/6 History: The Ancient Egyptians



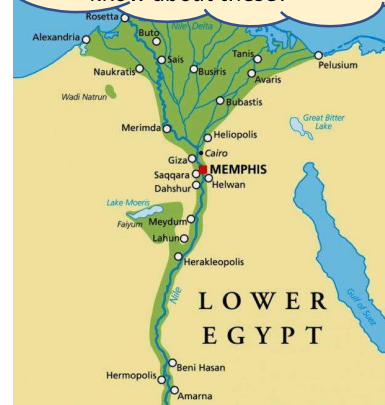
Overview

Ancient Egypt was one of the oldest and most powerful civilisations in history. It developed over 5,000 years ago in northeast Africa, along the River Nile. The Nile was very important because it provided water, helped grow crops, and allowed people to travel and trade.

Ancient Egypt was ruled by kings and queens called pharaohs, who were believed to be like gods. The Egyptians built amazing structures, including giant pyramids and temples, and used a writing system called hieroglyphs made from pictures and symbols.

Ancient Egypt lasted for thousands of years, but over time it was taken over by other powerful groups, including the Greeks and Romans.

What were the achievements of the Ancient Egyptians and how do we know about these?



The Ancient Egyptians:

- used the River Nile to create a system of agriculture.
- developed a decimal-based number system, ideal for construction, measurement and trade.
- built pyramids, temples, tombs, palaces and fortresses.
- played a variety of sports, including individual and team games, like wrestling and ball games.
- were polytheistic.
- practised both human and animal sacrifice, as well as offer food to the gods.

Year 3 Romans; Year 5 Ancient Maya; Year 4/5 Ancient Greece

KS3 Studies of Civilisations

Prior Knowledge

Civilisation	An organised society with its own culture or way of life.
Agriculture	The practice of farming, including preparing soil and harvesting crops.
Landmark	An object or feature of a landscape that is recognisable.
Hieroglyphs	A stylised picture of an object, representing a word, syllable or sound
Pharaoh	A ruler in Ancient Egypt.
Archaeology	The study of objects that belonged to people who lived in the past.

Tier 3

Afterlife	The belief in life after death; in Ancient Egypt, a key religious concept involving mummification and burial rituals to prepare for the next world.
Irrigation	A method of controlling water to support agriculture; in Ancient Egypt, it involved using the Nile to water crops.
Mummification	A process used in Ancient Egypt to preserve the bodies of the dead, believed necessary for entering the afterlife.
Scribe	A person trained to read and write hieroglyphics, responsible for record-keeping and documentation in Ancient Egypt.
Rosetta Stone	A stone slab inscribed with the same text in Greek, Demotic, and hieroglyphics, which allowed scholars to decode Egyptian writing.
Legacy	Something handed down from the past; in history, it refers to the lasting achievements and influence of a civilisation.
Dynasty	A succession of rulers from the same family or bloodline, especially in the context of Ancient Egyptian history.
Papyrus	A plant that grows along the Nile; its stalks were used by Ancient Egyptians to create an early form of paper for writing.
Polytheistic religion	The belief in more than one god or goddess.
Excavation	The process of systematically digging up and recording archaeological remains from ancient sites.