



Year 5 Knowledge Organiser Ancient Civilizations Egypt

What I should already know.

- Egypt is a country in the **continent** of Africa.
- The **climate** of Egypt is different to that of the UK.
- What life was like in Stone Age Britain.

What will I know by the end of the unit?



c. 3500 BC: Early settlers settle in the Nile valley.	c. 2700 BC: First stone pyramid built.	c. AD 300: Last use of hieroglyphic writing.
c. 3100 BC: Development of hieroglyphics	c. 2600 BC: Pyramid of Giza built.	1922: Howard Carter discovers the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Vocabulary

Afterlife	A life that some people believe begins when you die, for example a life in heaven or as another person or animal.
Ancient	Belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire (AD 410).
archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
architecture	The art of planning, designing and constructing buildings.
artefacts	An object from the past that shows evidence of what life was like.
chronology	The order of events in time.
Circa	Latin meaning 'around'. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
civilisation	A human society with its own social organisation and culture .
Climate	The general weather conditions that are typical of a place.
continent	A very large area of land that consists of many countries . Europe is a continent .
Culture	Activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilization.
Deities	A god or goddess.
Fertile	Rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants.
hierarchy	A system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance, for example in society .
hieroglyphics	Symbols in the form of pictures which are used in some writing systems, for example those of ancient Egypt.
irrigation	Supply land with water in order to help crops grow.
mummification	If a dead body is mummified , it is preserved , for example by rubbing it with special oils and wrapping it in cloth.
Papyrus	A tall water plant that grows in Africa.
Pharaoh	A king of ancient Egypt .
polytheists	The worship of or belief in more than one god.
preserve	Making sure that something remains as it is, and does not change or end.
pyramids	Ancient stone buildings with four triangular sloping sides. The most famous pyramids are those built in ancient Egypt to contain the bodies of their kings and queens.
sarcophagus	A large decorative container in which a dead body was placed in ancient times .
settler/settlement	People who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a Settlement.
Society	People in general, thought of as a large organised group.
Tomb	A large grave that is above ground.
Trade	The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services.

Key Knowledge

Civilisation – a human society with its own social organisation and culture that arises from a group of people being about to settle and develop because they have a surplus of food and clean water.

Egypt – located in the north - eastern corner of Africa.

The **Nile** was important because it flooded annually. This made the soil fertile and helped crops to grow. This means that people **settled** near the banks of the Nile, as it was 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, building; papyrus reeds for scrolls and boats; a key means of transport and made trade easier.

Artefacts and translated **hieroglyphics** tell us about what life was like in Ancient Egypt.

Rosetta Stone – a tablet with three languages inscribed on it, hieroglyphic, demotic and Ancient Greek. The key to translating hieroglyphics.

Polytheist – belief in many gods/ deities.

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**.

Historical Skills and Enquiry

- Describe how Egyptian **artefacts** and ruins tell us about their **culture**, and **religious beliefs**.
- Describe what Egyptian life was like for different groups of people.
- Describe how the Egyptian **society** has had an impact on modern society.
- Describe why people chose to **settle** in certain areas in ancient Egypt.
- Compare what was happening in the Egyptian **civilisation** with what was happening in Britain at the same time. Compare aspects of life such as achievements, society, beliefs, and architecture.
- Present what you know about the Egyptians using a variety of skills.
- Use appropriate vocabulary to communicate ideas.