

Autumn 1

Year 3 – Ancient Egypt

What was most important to Ancient Egyptians?



Skills: Historical Comprehension

| Key Vocabulary | |
|----------------------|---|
| Ancient | Something from a very long time ago. |
| Afterlife | The place where Egyptians believed they would go after they died. |
| Civilisation | A human society with well-developed rules and government, often where technology and the arts are considered important. |
| Egypt | The country on the continent of Africa where the ancient Egyptian civilisation was created. |
| Hieroglyphics | A system of writing that consists of pictures and symbols (hieroglyphs) instead of letters. |
| Tomb | A large vault, typically an underground one, for burying the dead. |
| Pharaoh | A ruler of ancient Egypt. |

Powerful knowledge

- There were 7 steps in the mummification process – announcement of death, embalming the body, removal of brain, removal of internal organs, drying out process, wrapping of the body, final procession.
- The pyramids were built as burial places and monuments to the Pharaohs. As part of their religion, the Egyptians believed that the Pharaoh needed certain things to succeed in the afterlife. Deep inside the pyramid the Pharaoh would be buried with all sorts of items and treasure that he may need to survive in the afterlife.
- Every aspect of life in Egypt depended on the river – the Nile provided food and resources, land for agriculture, a means of travel, and was critical in the transportation of materials for building projects and other large-scale activities. It was a critical lifeline that literally brought life to the desert.
- Hat Shepsut was a female pharaoh of Egypt. She ruled for over 20 years and focused on trade instead of war. She built many grand monuments, including temples and had a unique burial tomb design.
- In ancient Egypt, scribes wrote on papyrus. Papyrus was a thick type of paper made from reeds that grew along the Nile. Scribes were mostly men who went to a special school to learn to write. Scribes wrote using hieroglyphs. Hieroglyphs were used for religious texts and inscriptions on statues and tombs. They were also used for counting crops and animals so that the right taxes could be taken.
- Tutankhamun was born around 1341 BC and lived until 1323 BC. He became pharaoh at the age of 10. His tomb is in the Valley of the Kings. This pharaoh made complete changes to the religion of Egypt, getting rid of their idea of many gods and changing their worship to one god: Aten, the sun god. He became unpopular with the people of Egypt and the priests of the many temples, especially when he destroyed the images of all of the other gods.

What I should already know

- Order events in time order.
- An understanding of the similarities and differences between the past and now.

Learning Journey

- To understand the mummification process.
- To investigate the pyramids of Egypt.
- To understand the importance of the River Nile to Ancient Egyptians.
- To investigate Hap Shetsut.
- To research hieroglyphs.
- To investigate Tutan Khamun.

NC coverage

- The achievements of the earliest civilizations.

