



# Y3 Knowledge Organiser

## History: Ancient Egyptians

**The BIG question:** What have the Ancient Egyptians taught us?



### Key words/ facts:

- **River Nile** – The longest river in Africa.
- **Shaduf** – An Ancient Egyptian device used to collect and move water from the Nile.
- **Valley of the Kings** – Where many Pharaohs were buried, including Tutankhamun.
- **Hieroglyphics** – Ancient Egyptian writing made up of pictures and symbols.
- **Mummification** – When wealthy Ancient Egyptians died, their bodies were preserved by a process called 'mummification'.
- **Canopic jars**- special jars used to hold the organs of a mummified body
- **Sphinx** – A monument found in Egypt. It has the body of a lion and the head of a human.
- **Tutankhamun** – Also known as 'King Tut'. Became king in 1400 BC at the age of 8 or 9 years old! He was the last member of his family to rule.
- **Howard Carter** – An archaeologist who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings in 1922 with **Lord Carnarvan**.
- **Proyer, Ahket, Shomu**- Ancient Egyptian farming seasons.
- **Pyramids**- Ancient Egyptian large structures
- **Papyrus**- Ancient paper
- **Pharaoh**-Ruler of Ancient Egypt

### The Nile

Life revolved around **the Nile**. Every year, it flooded and left behind a black silt that enriched the soil for growing crops. The river was also used to **irrigate** fields in other areas.

**The Nile** was used for water, fishing and trade. Mud from the river banks was used to make bricks and papyrus plants were used to make paper.

Most people lived along and around **the Nile**. This is still true in **Egypt** today.



The **ancient Egyptians** built the pyramids as resting places for the **pharaohs**.

When a **pharaoh** died, priests would prepare their bodies with a process called **mummification**.

The **pharaoh** was then placed in a **tomb**, often under a pyramid, with their most treasured possessions. The **ancient Egyptians** believed that these treasures would help them in the afterlife.



### Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt

The **ancient Egyptians** worshipped many gods and goddesses who were responsible for different aspects of life and death.

<b>Horus</b>	God of the sky. The <b>ancient Egyptians</b> believed a <b>pharaoh</b> was a god-like living version of Horus.
<b>Thoth</b>	God of wisdom. He is believed to have invented <b>hieroglyphics</b> and kept a record of all knowledge.
<b>Ma'at</b>	Goddess of truth. <b>Pharaohs</b> promised to follow Ma'at and be fair and honest.
<b>Osiris</b>	God of the dead.
<b>Anubis</b>	God of mummification. He weighed the hearts of the dead against Ma'at's feather. If the heart was lighter, the person could pass to the afterlife.

## STAR WORDS

Invention

Settlement

### Tutankhamun

Tutankhamun was a **pharaoh** known more recently as the 'boy king' because he became **pharaoh** when he was 9 years old.

His **tomb** was discovered by Howard Carter and his team in the Valley of the Kings in 1922.

The discovery helped people to understand more about the **Egyptians pharaohs**.

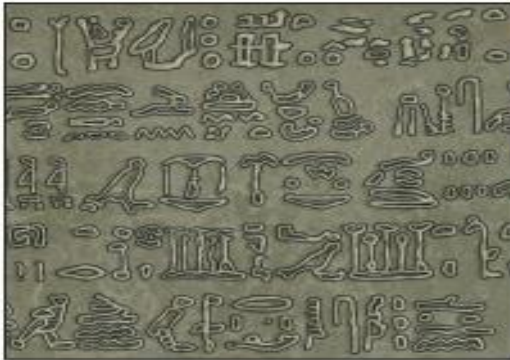


Tutankhamun's death mask

### Writing (Hieroglyphics)

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.



#### Did You Know...?

The Rosetta Stone was discovered in 1799. It was written in **hieroglyphs** and two other languages, including **ancient Greek**, which language experts could still read. They translated the **hieroglyphs** by comparing the languages. It took 20 years to translate all the text into modern language.



